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ROYAL INSTITUTION of GREAT BRITAIN, Albemarle-street, December, 1855.—**JUVENILE LECTURES**.—Mr. FRADAY will deliver during the Christmas Vacation, a series of **SIX LECTURES ON THE DISTINCTIVE PROPERTIES of the COMMON METALS**, intended for a Juvenile Auditory, on the following days, at Three o'clock.—Thursday, 27th; Saturday, 29th of December; Tuesday, 1st; Thursday, 3rd; Saturday, 5th; Tuesday, 8th of January, 1856. Non-subscribers to the Royal Institution, £1.00. Subscribers to the Government, One Guinea; each child under sixteen years, 10s. 6d. A syllabus may be obtained at the Royal Institution. Subscribers to all the Theatre Lectures are admitted on payment of Two Guineas for the season.
JOHN BARLOW, M.A., V.P. and Sec. R.I.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—The Society's ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS will be OPENED EARLY in JANUARY at the Gallery of the Old Water-Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East.—Photographs intended for exhibition must be directed to the Honorary Secretary, at the Gallery, and must be sent in on the 26th, 27th, or 28th of January, 1856. The admission will be 1s. 6d. to the members of the Society, and may be obtained by applying at the Society's Rooms, 21, Regent-street, between the hours of Ten and Four.
R. FENTON, Honorary Secretary.

MUSEUM of PRACTICAL GEOLOGY, JERMYN-STREET.—NOTICE. DURING CHRISTMAS WEEK and New-Year the Museum will be OPENED FREE to the PUBLIC every day but Friday.
By Order, THOMAS REEKS, Curator.

EVENING COURSES of PRACTICAL PHYSICO-MATHEMATICAL INSTITUTION, under the direction of MR. BENJAMIN Faxon, Assistant Teacher of Practical Chemistry at St. Bartholomew's Medical College. The Laboratory will open for GENERAL and ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY on TUESDAY, January 8, at 7 o'clock; and for MEDICAL CHEMISTRY and TOXICOLOGY on WEDNESDAY, January 9, at 7 o'clock. The classes will be held in the Lecture-room of the Institution of Chemicals, and Admission to the Institution during the term. Further particulars may be obtained of J. H. PEPPER, Esq.

THE GOVERNESSES' INSTITUTION, 34, Soho-square.—Mrs. WAGHORN, who has resided many years abroad, respectfully invites the attention of Nobility, Gentry, and others, of Schools for the Education of Girls, and of GOVERNESSES, TEACHERS, COMPANIONS, TUTORS, and PROFESSORS. School Property transferred, and Girls introduced in England, France, and Germany. No charge to Principals.

MILL HILL SCHOOL, HENDON, MID-SURREY.—The object of this Public School is to give a First Class Education, in all respects, to the Sons of Gentlemen, and of other respectable families. The Course of Study includes Classics, Mathematics, and the various branches of a sound English Education. The situation is beautiful and healthy, the spacious premises were provided expressly for the school, and the domestic arrangements are on a most liberal scale. Head Master.—The Rev. PHILIP SMITH, B.A., assisted by six Resident Masters besides other Teachers. The First Session of 1856, will COMMENCE on WEDNESDAY, the 30th of January. Application to the Head Master, at the School, or the Secretary, at the Committee Room, Founders' Hall, St. Swithin's-lane, London. By Order of the Committee, ALGERNON WELLS, Secretary.

CHELTONHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL. SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION. THE CHRISTMAS VACATION, the term ending on the 29th of January, 1856.—On the 5th and 6th of February, an EXAMINATION will be held at the School for FIVE SCHOLARSHIPS for Boys of various ages, and on different subjects. The particulars can be obtained by applying to the Head Master. The first day of enrolment for next Session will be the 2nd of January, on which day application should be made. E. H. HUMPHREY, B.L.D., Head Master.

QUEENWOOD COLLEGE, near Stockbridge, Hants.—The Course of Instruction embraces Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Theoretical and Practical Chemistry, English Classics, Foreign Languages, Pictures, and Music. The position of the Establishment is healthful and its advantages various and unusual. The Principal is assisted by Ten Resident Masters.—Attention is invited to the Prospectus, which may be had on application.—The first Session of 1856 will commence on the 24th of January.

KENSINGTON HALL COLLEGiate INSTITUTION for LADIES, North End, Fulham. Lady Superintendent.—Mrs. JOHNSON. Director of Education.—Mr. JOHNSON.

The object of this Institution is to provide Resident Pupils with a complete and systematic course of Education and Instruction, so as to fit them for advanced life in a refined society; with more than usual attention to individual peculiarities, and to the useful as well as elegant requirements of after life. Terms, Lists of Lectures, &c., will be forwarded by the Lady Superintendent.

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GENERAL and PREPARATORY SCHOOL, MOSTYN HOUSE, PARKGATE, CHESHIRE, in the vicinity of Liverpool, Birkenhead, and Chester. Principal.—The Rev. E. H. PRICE, B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge.

who is assisted by resident English and Foreign Masters. The School is situated in a quiet part of the Public Schools, Military and Naval Colleges, &c. Parkgate being recommended for its healthiness, and possessing the convenience of sea-bathing, the above is offered to the notice of parents, to whom these considerations would be a special object in the selection of a school for their daughters.

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PARLEZ VOUS FRANÇAIS?—Many who this question is put will answer, "I can read, translate, and understand French, but I cannot speak it." In which the Pupils are taught theoretically and practically by separate native Professors, are held at M. ROSENTHAL'S, 355, Oxford-street, between the Pantheon and Regent's-circus.

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The Newark, Leicester.

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Terms inclusive, and in strict proportion with the advantages resulting from a Protestant establishment.

Vacation at Christmas, one month. Studies resumed on the 1st of January.

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PROTESTANT SCHOOL for YOUNG GENTLEMEN, Conducted by M. de la FITE.

Brown's Haus, Ziegelhausen, Two Miles from Heidelberg.

M. de la FITE begs to announce that he will be in London on the 5th of January, and will (D.V.) return to Ziegelhausen on the 10th, when he will be happy to receive any of his Pupils, whose parents may be desirous of sending them to him.

For further particulars, application may be made to Mr. ROBERT HENRY, 2, Alwyn Cottages, Canonbury-road, Islington; from whom Prospectuses may also be had.

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A Course of HISTOLOGICAL DEMONSTRATIONS will be given by Dr. W. WOODHAM WEBB, commencing on FRIDAY, January 11, 1856, and will be continued on the succeeding Tuesdays and Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

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ATHENÆUM

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The Holders of the Certificates are entitled to a maximum sum of 20 per annum for the Instruction in Drawing of the Pupil-Teachers of their respective Schools.

These Certificates will also add to the value of the General Certificate of the Committee of Council, on the next revision of such Certificates, under the Minute of 20th August, 1853.

Candidates must be in their Names at least one week before the day of Examination.

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But if the business part of William's government went ill, the social and courtly part went worse. Compared against the Stuarts, William was wanting in all the lesser qualities and graces of a gentleman; and his deficiency in those airy accomplishments which cost so little and count for so much in courts, was aggravated by his insensibility to the poetry of Prior and Dryden, and his inability to speak the language in which it was written. This part of his character Mr. Macaulay lays open frankly.—

"One of the chief functions of our Sovereigns had long been to preside over the society of the capital.

That function Charles the Second had performed with immense success. His easy bow, his good stories, his style of dancing and playing tennis, the sound of his cordial laugh, were familiar to all London. One day he was seen among the elms of Saint James's Park chatting with Dryden about poetry. Another day his arm was on Tom Durfey's shoulder; and His Majesty was taking a second, while his companion sang 'Phililda, Phililda,' or 'To horse, brave boys, to Newmarket, to horse.' James, with much less vivacity and good nature, was accessible, and, to people who did not cross him, civil. But of this sociability William was entirely destitute. He seldom came forth from his closet; and, when he appeared in the public rooms, he stood among the crowd of courtiers and ladies, stern and abstracted, making no jest and smiling at none. His freezing look, his silence, the dry and concise answers which he uttered when he could keep silence no longer, disgusted noblemen and gentlemen who had been accustomed to be slapped on the back by their royal masters, called Jack or Harry, congratulated about race-cups or rallied about actresses."

What was conspicuously absent in William, was in a very slight degree present in Mary, who tried to make up to her countrymen, whose manners and whose humours she understood, for the graces and accomplishments which were wanting in her husband. But she was unequal to the task. Mr. Macaulay, who lavishes on her the whole tenderness and romance of his heart, is obliged to confess to some deficiencies:

"There was no want of feminine wit and shrewdness in her conversation; and her letters were so well expressed that they deserved to be well spelt. She took much pleasure in the lighter kinds of literature, and did something towards bringing books into fashion among ladies of quality."

Her tastes were trivial; and literature owes but little to Her Majesty's softer influence. She did a great deal, however, for China.—

"In every corner of the mansion appeared a profusion of gewgaws, not yet familiar to English eyes. Mary had acquired at the Hague a taste for the porcelain of China, and amused herself by forming at Hampton a vast collection of hideous images, and of vases on which houses, trees, bridges, and mandarins were depicted in outrageous defiance of all the laws of perspective. The fashion, a frivolous and inelegant fashion it must be owned, which was thus set by the amiable Queen, spread fast and wide. In a few years almost every great house in the kingdom contained a museum of these grotesque baubles. Even statesmen and generals were not ashamed to be renowned as judges of teapots and dragons; and satirists long continued to repeat that a fine lady valued her mottled green pottery quite as much as she valued her monkey, and much more than she valued her husband."

A morose King and a weak Queen—however virtuous and reputable—were not likely to exert a decisive influence over the manners of their time; but the example of a firm and incorruptible prince might have been expected to aid in curbing the licence of public servants. The age of William, nevertheless, was an age of unblushing corruption; and parliamentary influence was then bought and sold with a shameless publicity, unexampled in the worst days of the Stuarts. "The standard of honor and virtue," says Mr. Macaulay, "among our public men was, during his reign, at the very lowest point." Such was not the case during the reign of Oliver. A prince cannot be held liable for the vices of private men; but a prince who chooses his own servants is surely not wholly irresponsible for their vices.

Few men of that age escape the dark brush of the historical painter; but the most conspicuous object of his dislike is the most conspicuous Englishman in it—Marlborough. He is splashed and smeared, and shaded and smoked, throughout. If such a portrait is like the original, we may say of Marlborough, as Charles the Second said of himself—adzoeks,

he is an ugly fellow! The portrait is terrible: hypocrite, cheat, murderer, traitor, he is made to appear as a combination of all that is worst in human experience. The inmates of Newgate are lambs in comparison,—mere babes in wickedness. If a little light be needed to make the surrounding darkness visible, it is thrown on the hero's sword, not on his face. For instance:—

"Avarice is rarely the vice of a young man: it is rarely the vice of a great man; but Marlborough was one of the few who have, in the bloom of youth, loved lucre more than wine or women, and who have, at the height of greatness, loved lucre more than power or fame."

If his genius is allowed, it is only at the expense of his heart. If his success as a soldier cannot be denied, it is only admitted as another and more powerful proof of the depravity of his nature:—

"At twenty he made money of his beauty and his vigour. At sixty he made money of his genius and his glory. The applauses which were justly due to his conduct at Walcourt could not altogether drown the voices of those who muttered that, wherever a broad piece was to be saved or got, this hero was a mere Euclio, a mere Harpagon; that, though he drew a large allowance under pretence of keeping a public table, he never asked an officer to dinner; that his muster rolls were fraudulently made up; that he pocketed pay in the names of men who had long been dead, of men who had been killed in his own sight four years before at Sedgemoor; that there were twenty such names in one troop; that there were thirty-six in another."

The wife of the hero is not more favourably presented:—

"The fondness of the Princess for Lady Marlborough was such as, in a superstitious age, would have been ascribed to some talisman or potion. Not only had the friends, in their confidential intercourse with each other, dropped all ceremony and all titles, and become plain Mrs. Morley and plain Mrs. Freeman; but even Prince George, who cared as much for the dignity of his birth as he was capable of caring for any thing but claret and calvered salmon, submitted to be Mr. Morley. The Countess boasted that she had selected the name of Freeman because it was peculiarly suited to the frankness and boldness of her character; and, to do her justice, it was not by the ordinary arts of courtiers that she established and long maintained her despotic empire over the feeblest of minds. She had little of that tact which is the characteristic talent of her sex: she was far too violent to flatter or to dissemble; but, by a rare chance, she had fallen in with a nature on which dictation and contradiction acted as philtres. In this grotesque friendship all the loyalty, the patience, the self-devotion, was on the side of the mistress. The whims, the haughty airs, the fits of ill temper, were on the side of the waiting woman."

We are treated to a little harmless scandal on the relation of the two ladies to Marlborough:—

"In foreign countries people knew in general that Anne was governed by the Churchills. They knew also that the man who appeared to enjoy so large a share of her favour was not only a great soldier and politician, but also one of the finest gentlemen of his time, that his face and figure were eminently handsome, his temper at once bland and resolute, his manners at once engaging and noble. Nothing could be more natural than that graces and accomplishments like his should win a female heart. On the Continent, therefore, many persons imagined that he was Anne's favoured lover; and he was so described in contemporary French libels which have long been forgotten. In England this calumny never found credit even with the vulgar, and is nowhere to be found even in the most ribald doggrel that was sung about our streets. In truth the Princess seems never to have been guilty of a thought inconsistent with her conjugal vows. To her Marlborough, with all his genius and his valour, his beauty and his grace, was nothing but the husband of her friend."

The story of the disgrace of this powerful favourite is told at some length by Mr. Macaulay, and with all the art of which he is master. Our

readers shall see how far he goes in impeachment of Marlborough. He begins his story thus:—

"Marlborough had never ceased to assure the Court of Saint-Germain that the great crime which he had committed was constantly present to his thoughts, and that he lived only for the purpose of repentance and reparation. Not only had he been himself converted: he had also converted the Princess Anne. In 1688, the Churchills had, with little difficulty, induced her to fly from her father's palace. In 1691, they, with as little difficulty, induced her to copy out and sign a letter expressing her deep concern for his misfortunes and her earnest wish to atone for her breach of duty. At the same time Marlborough held out hopes that it might be in his power to effect the restoration of his old master in the best possible way, without the help of a single foreign soldier or sailor, by the votes of the English Lords and Commons, and by the support of the English army."

After describing the many causes which had produced a deep feeling of resentment throughout England against the Dutch,—Mr. Macaulay proceeds:—

"Of that antipathy Marlborough determined to avail himself for the purpose, as he assured James and James's adherents, of effecting a restoration. The temper of both Houses was such that they might not improbably be induced by skilful management to present a joint address, requesting that all foreigners might be dismissed from the service of their Majesties. Marlborough undertook to move such an address in the Lords; and there would have been no difficulty in finding some gentleman of great weight to make a similar motion in the Commons. If the address should be carried, what could William do? Would he yield? Would he discard all his dearest, his oldest, his most trusty friends? It was hardly possible to believe that he would make so painful, so humiliating a concession. If he did not yield, there would be a rupture between him and the Parliament; and the Parliament would be backed by the people. Even a King reigning by a hereditary title might well shrink from such a contest with the Estates of the Realm. But to a King whose title rested on a resolution of the Estates of the Realm such a contest must almost necessarily be fatal. The last hope of William would be in the army. The army Marlborough undertook to manage; and it is highly probable that what he undertook he could have performed. His courage, his abilities, his noble and winning manners, the splendid success which had attended him on every occasion on which he had been in command, had made him, in spite of his sordid vices, a favourite with his brethren in arms. They were proud of having one countryman who had shown that he wanted nothing but opportunity to vie with the ablest Marshal of France. The Dutch were even more disliked by the English troops than by the English nation generally. Had Marlborough therefore, after securing the co-operation of some distinguished officers, presented himself at the critical moment to those regiments which he had led to victory in Flanders and in Ireland, had he called on them to rally round him, to protect the Parliament, and to drive out the aliens, there is strong reason to think that the call would have been obeyed. He would then have had it in his power to fulfil the promises which he had so solemnly made to his old master. Of all the schemes ever formed for the restoration of James or of his descendants, this scheme promised the fairest. That national pride, that hatred of arbitrary power, which had hitherto been on William's side, would now be turned against him. Hundreds of thousands who would have put their lives in jeopardy to prevent a French army from imposing a government on the English, would have felt no disposition to prevent an English army from driving out the Dutch. Even the Whigs could scarcely, without renouncing their old doctrines, support a prince who obstinately refused to comply with the general wish of his people signified to him by his Parliament. The plot looked well. An active canvass was made. Many members of the House of Commons, who did not at all suspect that there was any ulterior design, promised to vote against the foreigners. Marlborough was indefatigable in in-

flaming the discontents of the army. His house was constantly filled with officers who heated each other into fury by talking against the Dutch. But, before the preparations were complete, a strange suspicion rose in the minds of some of the Jacobites. That the author of this bold and artful scheme wished to pull down the existing government there could be little doubt. But was it quite certain what government he meant to set up? Might he not depose William without restoring James? Was it not possible that a man so wise, so aspiring, and so wicked, might be meditating a double treason, such as would have been thought a masterpiece of statecraft by the great Italian politicians of the fifteenth century, such as *Borgia* would have envied, such as Machiavelli would have extolled to the skies? What if this consummate dissembler should cheat both the rival kings? What if, when he found himself commander of the army and protector of the Parliament, he should proclaim Queen Anne? Was it not possible that the weary and harassed nation might gladly acquiesce in such a settlement? James was unpopular because he was a Papist influenced by Popish priests. William was unpopular because he was a foreigner attached to foreign favourites. Anne was at once a Protestant and an Englishwoman. Under her government the country would be in no danger of being overrun either by Jesuits or by Dutchmen. That Marlborough had the strongest motives for placing her on the throne was evident. He could never, in the court of her father, be more than a repentant criminal, whose services were overpaid by a pardon. In her court the husband of her adored friend would be what *Pepin Heristal* and *Charles Martel* had been to the *Chilperics* and *Childerberts*. He would be the chief director of the civil and military government. He would wield the whole power of England. He would hold the balance of Europe. Great kings and commonwealths would bid against each other for his favour, and exhaust their treasures in the vain hope of satiating his avarice. The presumption was, therefore, that, if he had the English crown in his hands, he would put it on the head of the Princess. What evidence there was to confirm this presumption is not known: but it is certain that something took place which convinced some of the most devoted friends of the exiled family that he was meditating a second perfidy, surpassing even thefeat which he had performed at Salisbury. They were afraid that if, at that moment, they succeeded in getting rid of William, the situation of James would be more hopeless than ever. So fully were they persuaded of the duplicity of their accomplice, that they not only refused to proceed further in the execution of the plan which he had formed, but disclosed his whole scheme to Portland. William seems to have been alarmed and provoked by this intelligence to a degree very unusual with him. In general he was indulgent, nay, wilfully blind to the baseness of the English statesmen whom he employed. He suspected, indeed he knew, that some of his servants were in correspondence with his competitor; and yet he did not punish them, did not disgrace them, did not even frown on them. He thought meanly, and he had but too good reason for thinking meanly, of the whole of that breed of public men which the Restoration had formed and had bequeathed to the Revolution. He knew them too well to complain because he did not find in them veracity, fidelity, consistency, disinterestedness. The very utmost that he expected from them was that they would serve him as far as they could serve him without serious danger to themselves. If he learned that, while sitting in his council and enriched by his bounty, they were trying to make for themselves at Saint-Germain an interest which might be of use to them in the event of a counter-revolution he was more inclined to bestow on them the contemptuous commendation which was bestowed of old on the worldly wisdom of the unjust steward than to call them to a severe account. But the crime of Marlborough was of a very different kind. His treason was not that of a fainthearted man desirous to keep a retreat open for himself in every event, but that of a man of dauntless courage, profound policy and measureless ambition. William was not prone to fear; but, if there was anything on earth that he feared, it was Marlborough. To treat the criminal

as he deserved was indeed impossible: for those by whom his designs had been made known to the Government would never have consented to appear against him in the witness box. But to permit him to retain high command in that army which he was then engaged in seducing would have been madness. Late in the evening of the 9th of January the Queen had a painful explanation with the Princess Anne. Early the next morning Marlborough was informed that their Majesties had no further occasion for his services, and that he must not presume to appear in the royal presence. He had been loaded with honours, and with what he loved better, riches. All was at once taken away."

The sequel, however, Mr. Macaulay represents as yet more infamous. The historian has been describing the unfortunate expedition of Talmash; the return of the armament to Portsmouth; and the death of the gallant leader. He continues,—

"Talmash died, exclaiming with his last breath that he had been lured into a snare by treachery. The public grief and indignation were loudly expressed. The nation remembered the services of the unfortunate general, forgave his rashness, pitied his sufferings, and execrated the unknown traitors whose machinations had been fatal to him. There were many conjectures and many rumours. Some sturdy Englishmen, misled by national prejudice, swore that none of our plans would ever be kept a secret from the enemy while French refugees were in high military command. Some zealous Whigs, misled by party spirit, muttered that the Court of Saint-Germains would never want good intelligence while a single Tory remained in the Cabinet Council. The real criminal was not named; nor, till the archives of the House of Stuart were explored, was it known to the world that Talmash had perished by the basest of all the hundred villanies of Marlborough. Yet never had Marlborough been less a Jacobite than at the moment when he rendered this wicked and shameful service to the Jacobite cause. It may be confidently affirmed that to serve the banished family was not his object, and that to ingratiate himself with the banished family was only his secondary object. His primary object was to force himself into the service of the existing Government, and to regain possession of those important and lucrative places from which he had been dismissed more than two years before. He knew that the country and the Parliament would not patiently bear to see the English army commanded by foreign generals. Two Englishmen only had shown themselves fit for high military posts, himself and Talmash. If Talmash were defeated and disgraced, William would scarcely have a choice. In fact, as soon as it was known that the expedition had failed, and that Talmash was no more, the general cry was that the King ought to receive into his favour the accomplished Captain who had done such good service at Walcourt, at Cork, and at Kinsale. Nor can we blame the multitude for raising this cry. For everybody knew that Marlborough was an eminently brave, skilful, and successful officer: but very few persons knew that he had, while commanding William's troops, while sitting in William's council, while waiting in William's bedchamber, formed a most artful and dangerous plot for the subversion of William's throne; and still fewer suspected the real author of the recent calamity, of the slaughter in the Bay of Camaret, of the melancholy fate of Talmash. The effect therefore of the foulest of all treasons was to raise the traitor in public estimation."

We are pretty sure that the account of Marlborough's disgrace will lead to debate:—but we have no objection to see it put forth in this plain and emphatic way. Marlborough's biographers have certainly overlooked or concealed some important facts in this period of his life. These must now be reconsidered; and if explanations can be made for the hero of Blenheim, such as will free his memory from the charges advanced by Mr. Macaulay, every Englishman, we take it, will rejoice over the proof of his innocence. One large advantage springs out of Mr. Macaulay's bold and very positive style of assertion—a renewed and imperious scrutiny

of men whom posterity would have otherwise overlooked.

When the Marlboroughs fell Anne sided with them against her relatives and sovereigns,—constancy to her friends being one of her few fine qualities. For this she was severely punished, even disgraced so far as the mean conduct of the King could inflict disgrace on a woman. As Mr. Macaulay tells the story,—

"Her income was secured by Act of Parliament: but no punishment which it was in the power of the Crown to inflict on her was spared. Her guard of honour was taken away. The foreign ministers ceased to wait upon her. When she went to Bath the Secretary of State wrote to request the Mayor of that city not to receive her with the ceremonial with which royal visitors were usually welcomed. When she attended divine service at Saint James's Church she found that the rector had been forbidden to show her the customary marks of respect, to bow to her from his pulpit, and to send a copy of his text to be laid on her cushion. Even the belfry of Piccadilly, it was said, perhaps falsely, was ordered not to chant her praises in its doggerel verse under the windows of Berkeley House."

Among other striking portraits in these two volumes is that of Lord Torrington—the Admiral Herbert of the Revolution. We will hang it up in our historical gallery beside the Marlborough:—not, however, feeling very proud of the double presentment of Army and Navy.—

"We cannot justly blame William for having a high opinion of Torrington. For Torrington was generally regarded as one of the bravest and most skilful officers in the navy. He had been promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral of England by James, who, if he understood any thing, understood maritime affairs. That place and other lucrative places Torrington had relinquished when he found that he could retain them only by submitting to be a tool of the Jesuitical cabal. No man had taken a more active, a more hazardous, or a more useful part in effecting the Revolution. It seemed, therefore, that no man had fairer pretensions to be put at the head of the naval administration. Yet no man could be more unfit for such post. His morals had always been loose, so loose indeed that the firmness with which in the late reign he had adhered to his religion had excited much surprise. His glorious disgrace indeed seemed to have produced a salutary effect on his character. In poverty and exile he rose from a voluntary into a hero. But, as soon as prosperity returned, the hero sank again into a voluntary; and the lapse was deep and hopeless. The nerves of his mind, which had been during a short time braced to a firm tone, were now so much relaxed by vice that he was utterly incapable of self-denial or of strenuous exertion. The vulgar courage of a foremast man he still retained. But both as Admiral and as First Lord of the Admiralty he was utterly inefficient. Month after month the fleet which should have been the terror of the seas lay in harbour while he was diverting himself in London. The sailors, punning upon his new title, gave him the name of Lord Tarry-in-town. When he came on shipboard he was accompanied by a bevy of courtesans. There was scarcely an hour of the day or of the night when he was not under the influence of claret. Being insatiable of pleasure, he necessarily became insatiable of wealth. Yet he loved flattery almost as much as either wealth or pleasure. He had long been in the habit of exacting the most abject homage from those who were under his command. His flag ship was a little Versailles. He expected his captains to attend him to his cabin when he went to bed, and to assemble every morning at his levee. He even suffered them to dress him. One of them combed his flowing wig; another stood ready with the embroidered coat. Under such a chief there could be no discipline. His tars passed their time in rioting among the rabble of Portsmouth. Those officers who won his favour by servility and adulmentation easily obtained leave of absence, and spent weeks in London, revelling in taverns, scouring the streets, or making love to the masked ladies in the pit of the theatre. The victualers soon found out with whom they had to deal, and sent down to the fleet casks of meat which dogs—*ad*

not touch, and barrels of beer which smelt worse than bilge water. Meanwhile the British Channel seemed to be abandoned to French rovers. Our merchantmen were boarded in sight of the ramparts of Plymouth. The sugar fleet from the West Indies lost seven ships. The whole value of the prizes taken by the cruisers of the enemy in the immediate neighbourhood of our island, while Torrington was engaged with his bottle and his harem, was estimated at six hundred thousand pounds. So difficult was it to obtain the convoy of a man-of-war, except by giving immense bribes, that our traders were forced to hire the services of Dutch privateers, and found these foreign mercenaries much more useful and much less greedy than the officers of our own royal navy."

To this description of the roysterer sailor we feel inclined to subscribe with less hesitation than we feel with reference to many other pictures. We are not of those who think that James had any deep acquaintance with naval affairs; and he most assuredly was not a profound judge of the fitness of men for high commands. This want was conspicuously shown during the Irish campaign. He believed in Lauzun. He failed to perceive the rare military faculty of Sarsfield—the only man of genius in his camp.

Mr. Macaulay's account of the Irish War is most vivid and masterly. He sets a scene before the eye with its natural features, clothes it with verdure, and fills it with life. Few things are more perfect in the way of descriptive arrangement—taking it as an illustration—than the account of the district of Killarney in the seventeenth century. Our readers shall look upon this pleasant scene:—

"The south-western part of Kerry is now well-known as the most beautiful tract in the British isles. The mountains, the glens, the capes stretching far into the Atlantic, the crags on which the eagles build, the rivulets brawling down rocky passes, the lakes overhung by groves in which the wild deer find covert, attract every summer crowds of wanderers sated with the business and the pleasures of great cities. The beauties of that country are, indeed, too often hidden in the mist and rain which the west wind brings up from a boundless ocean. But, on the rare days when the sun shines out in all his glory, the landscape has a freshness and a warmth of colouring seldom found in our latitude. The myrtle loves the soil. The arbutus thrives better than even on the sunny shore of Calabria. The turf is of livelier hue than elsewhere: the hills glow with a richer purple: the varnish of the holly and ivy is more glossy; and berries of a brighter red peep through foliage of a brighter green. But during the greater part of the seventeenth century this paradise was as little known to the civilized world as Spitzbergen or Greenland. If ever it was mentioned, it was mentioned as a horrible desert, a chaos of bogs, thickets, and precipices, where the she-wolf still littered, and where some half-naked savages, who could not speak a word of English, made themselves burrows in the mud, and lived on roots and sour milk."

Of the colony planted, and the town built, by Sir William Petty (ancestor of the present Marquis of Lansdowne), in this beautiful and desolate region, the story is graphically told.—

"The little town which he founded, named from the bay of Kenmare, stood at the head of that bay, under a mountain ridge, on the summit of which travellers now stop to gaze upon the loveliest of the three lakes of Killarney. Scarcely any village, built by an enterprising band of New Englanders, far from the dwellings of their countrymen, in the midst of the hunting grounds of the Red Indians, was more completely out of the pale of civilization than Kenmare. Between Petty's settlement and the nearest English habitation the journey by land was of two days through a wild and dangerous country. Yet the place prospered. Forty-two houses were erected. The population amounted to a hundred and eighty. The land round the town was well cultivated. The cattle were numerous. Two small barks were employed in fishing and trading along the coast. The supply of herrings, pilchards, mackerel, and salmon was plentiful, and would have been still more plentiful, had not the beach been, in the finest part of

the year, covered by multitudes of seals, which preyed on the fish of the bay. Yet the seal was not an unwelcome visitor: his fur was valuable; and his oil supplied light through the long nights of winter. An attempt was made with great success to set up iron works. It was not yet the practice to employ coal for the purpose of smelting; and the manufacturers of Kent and Sussex had much difficulty in procuring timber at a reasonable price. The neighbourhood of Kenmare was then richly wooded; and Petty found it a gainful speculation to send ore thither. The lovers of the picturesque still regret the woods of oak and arbutus which were cut down to feed his furnaces. Another scheme had occurred to his active and intelligent mind. Some of the neighbouring islands abounded with variegated marble, red and white, purple and green. Petty well knew at what cost the ancient Romans had decorated their baths and temples with many-coloured columns hewn from Laconian and African quarries; and he seems to have indulged the hope that the rocks of his wild domain in Kerry might furnish embellishments to the mansions of Saint James's Square, and to the choir of Saint Paul's Cathedral. From the first, the settlers had found that they must be prepared to exercise the right of self-defence to an extent which would have been unnecessary and unjustifiable in a well-governed country. The law was altogether without force in the highlands which lie on the south of the vale of Tralee. No officer of justice willingly ventured into those parts. One pursuivant who in 1680 attempted to execute a warrant there was murdered. The people of Kenmare seem, however, to have been sufficiently secured by their union, their intelligence and their spirit, till the close of the year 1688. Then at length the effects of the policy of Tyrconnell began to be felt even in that remote corner of Ireland. In the eyes of the peasantry of Munster the colonists were aliens and heretics. The buildings, the boats, the machines, the granaries, the dairies, the furnaces, were doubtless contemplated by the native race with that mingled envy and contempt with which the ignorant naturally regard the triumphs of knowledge. Nor is it at all improbable that the emigrants had been guilty of those faults from which civilized men who settle among an uncivilized people are rarely free. The power derived from superior intelligence had, we may easily believe, been sometimes displayed with insolence, and sometimes exerted with injustice. Now, therefore, when the news spread from altar to altar, and from cabin to cabin, that the strangers were to be driven out, and that their houses and lands were to be given as a booty to the children of the soil, a predatory war commenced. Plunderers, thirty, forty, seventy in a troop, prowled round the town, some with fire-arms, some with pikes. The barns were robbed. The horses were stolen. In one foray a hundred and forty cattle were swept away and driven off through the ravines of Glengariff. In one night six dwellings were broken open and pillaged. At last the colonists, driven to extremity, resolved to die like men rather than be murdered in their beds. The house built by Petty for his agent was the largest in the place. It stood on a rocky peninsula round which the waves of the bay broke. Here the whole population assembled, seventy-five fighting men, with about a hundred women and children. They had among them sixty firelocks, and as many pikes and swords. Round the agent's house they threw up with great speed a wall of turf fourteen feet in height and twelve in thickness. The space enclosed was about half an acre. Within this rampart all the arms, the ammunition and the provisions of the settlement were collected, and several huts of thin plank were built. When these preparations were completed, the men of Kenmare began to make vigorous reprisals on their Irish neighbours, seized robbers, recovered stolen property, and continued during some weeks to act in all things as an independent commonwealth. The government was carried on by elective officers, to whom every member of the society swore fidelity on the Holy Gospels."

James's Irish Parliament is a theme on which Mr. Macaulay dwells with a fond and stinging pleasure. He delights to show how this crowd of "Dermots and Geohagans, O'Neils and O'Donovans, Macmahons, Macnamaras, and Macgillicuddies," ranted and raved.—

"The Commons next passed resolutions expressing warm gratitude both to James and to Lewis. Indeed it was proposed to send a deputation with an address to Aavaux; but the Speaker pointed out the gross impropriety of such a step; and, on this occasion, his interference was successful. It was seldom however that the House was disposed to listen to reason. The debates were all rant and tumult. Judge Daly, a Roman Catholic, but an honest and able man, could not refrain from lamenting the indecency and folly with which the members of his Church carried on the work of legislation. Those gentlemen, he said, were not a Parliament: they were a mere rabble: they resembled nothing so much as the mob of fishermen and market gardeners, who, at Naples, yelled and threw up their caps in honour of Massaniello. It was painful to hear member after member talking wild nonsense about his own losses, and clamouring for an estate, when the lives of all and the independence of their common country were in peril. These words were spoken in private; but some tale-bearer repeated them to the Commons. A violent storm broke forth. Daly was ordered to attend at the bar; and there was little doubt that he would be severely dealt with. But, just when he was at the door, one of the members rushed in shouting, 'Good news: Londonderry is taken.' The whole House rose. All the hats were flung into the air. Three loud huzzas were raised. Every heart was softened by the happy tidings. Nobody would hear of punishment at such a moment. The order for Daly's attendance was discharged amidst cries of 'No submission; no submission; we pardon him.' In a few hours it was known that Londonderry held out as obstinately as ever. This transaction, in itself unimportant, deserves to be recorded, as showing how destitute that House of Commons was of the qualities which ought to be found in the great council of a kingdom. And this assembly, without experience, without gravity, and without temper, was now to legislate on questions which would have tasked to the utmost the capacity of the greatest statesmen."

At the close of the account of Schomberg's first—and unsuccessful—campaign in Ireland appears a defence of that veteran warrior against the snarls and impatience of coffee-house politicians, which many will read as defence of men and things a little nearer to our own time. While glancing at the following, few persons will fail to think of Sebastopol and Raglan, as well as of Dundalk and Schomberg.

"All the hearers and tellers of news abused the general who furnished them with so little news to hear and to tell. For men of that sort are so greedy after excitement that they far more readily forgive a commander who loses a battle than a commander who declines one. The politicians, who delivered their oracles from the thickest cloud of tobacco-smoke at Garroway's, confidently asked, without knowing anything, either of war in general, or of Irish war in particular, why Schomberg did not fight. They could not venture to say that he did not understand his calling. No doubt he had been an excellent officer: but he was very old. He seemed to bear his years well: but his faculties were not what they had been: his memory was failing; and it was well known that he sometimes forgot in the afternoon what he had done in the morning. It may be doubted whether there ever existed a human being whose mind was quite as firmly toned at eighty as at forty. But that Schomberg's intellectual powers had been little impaired by years is sufficiently proved by his despatches, which are still extant, and which are models of official writing, terse, perspicuous, full of important facts and weighty reasons, compressed into the smallest possible number of words. In those despatches he sometimes alluded, not angrily, but with calm disdain, to the censures thrown upon his conduct by shallow babblers, who, never having seen any military operation more important than the relieving of the guard at Whitehall, imagined that the easiest thing in the world was to gain great victories in any situation and against any odds, and by sturdy patriots who were convinced that one English carter or thresher, who had not learned how to load a gun or port a pike, was a match for any five musketeers of King Lewis's household."

William was more fortunate than Schomberg.

But the passage of the Boyne, gallant as it was and most honourable to his arms, did not secure the subjugation of the island. He retired from the walls of Limerick foiled, if not defeated. Ginkel followed him in the course of victory. The passage of the Shannon at Athlone settled the Catholic cause, and eclipsed for ever the hopes of James. Limerick held out for a time; but the war was really over, and it only remained for the conqueror to obtain such conditions of surrender as their enemies would grant and their own pride would accept—conditions which the stronger side showed very little eagerness to fulfil, either as to the letter or the spirit. Sarsfield received permission to retire into France with his troops:—

"About a thousand men had agreed to enter into William's service. About two thousand accepted passes from Ginkel, and went quietly home. About eleven thousand returned with Sarsfield to the city. A few hours after the garrison had passed in review, the horse, who were encamped some miles from the town, were required to make their choice; and most of them volunteered for France."

It is not to be denied that means were used to seduce his soldiers from his side, and that these means were eminently successful. The Royal regiment, which had volunteered to share his exile almost to a man, "dwindled from 1,400 men to 500." Other regiments fell still more. At length Ireland was pacified, as Poland has been pacified in our own day, and as Hungary would have been, except for a vitality which defies the heel of the dragoon and the sword of the gendarme. Order reigned in Dublin. Of the hopeless prostration of the Celtic race after William's lieutenants had done their work, and the British and French transports had taken on board all that remained of the Catholic army, Mr. Macaulay shall tell us in one of his most powerful passages.—

"The sails disappeared. The emaciated and broken-hearted crowd of those whom a stroke more cruel than that of death had made widows and orphans dispersed, to beg their way home through a wasted land, or to lie down and die by the roadside of grief and hunger. The exiles departed, to learn in foreign camps that discipline without which natural courage is of small avail, and to retrieve on distant fields of battle the honour which had been lost by a long series of defeats at home. In Ireland there was peace. The domination of the colonists was absolute. The native population was tranquil with the ghastly tranquillity of exhaustion and of despair. There were indeed outrages, robberies, fire-raisings, assassinations. But more than a century passed away without one general insurrection. During that century, two rebellions were raised in Great Britain by the adherents of the House of Stuart. But neither when the elder Pretender was crowned at Scone, nor when the younger held his court at Holyrood, was the standard of that House set up in Connaught or Munster. In 1745, indeed, when the Highlanders were marching towards London, the Roman Catholics of Ireland were so quiet that the Lord Lieutenant could, without the smallest risk, send several regiments across Saint George's Channel to recruit the army of the Duke of Cumberland. Nor was this submission the effect of content, but of mere stupefaction and brokenness of heart. The iron had entered into the soul. The memory of past defeats, the habit of daily enduring insult and oppression, had cowed the spirit of the unhappy nation. There were indeed Irish Roman Catholics of great ability, energy and ambition: but they were to be found everywhere except in Ireland, at Versailles and at Saint Ildefonso, in the armies of Frederic and in the armies of Maria Theresa. One exile became a Marshal of France. Another became Prime Minister of Spain. If he had staid in his native land he would have been regarded as an inferior by all the ignorant and worthless squires who drank the glorious and immortal memory. In his palace at Madrid he had the pleasure of being assiduously courted by the ambassador of George the Second, and of bidding defiance in high terms to

the ambassador of George the Third. Scattered over all Europe were to be found brave Irish generals, dexterous Irish diplomats, Irish Counts, Irish Barons, Irish Knights of Saint Lewis and of Saint Leopold, of the White Eagle and of the Golden Fleece, who, if they had remained in the house of bondage, could not have been ensigns of marching regiments or freemen of petty corporations. These men, the natural chiefs of their race, having been withdrawn, what remained was utterly helpless and passive. A rising of the Irishry against the Englishry was no more to be apprehended than a rising of the women and children against the men."

All this loss does not seem to trouble Mr. Macaulay. His sympathies, indeed, are very warm on one side, and he easily finds merit in his friends. But he has a very sharp eye for the blunders of those men who are not of his party. When a French refugee, driven from his country by religious persecution, mounts the breach at Athlone, Mr. Macaulay sees the stupidity which had caused Louis to send such gallant fellows "to recruit the armies of his deadliest enemies." When the chiefs of the Irish race, as brave men as ever drew sword, are driven into foreign countries, to recruit the armies of William's "deadliest enemies," Philosophy goes to sleep over the mistake, and the blunderer escapes without rebuke.

While William was in Ireland, whither he repaired to restore confidence to his party after the failure of Schomberg, occurred the incident in England which fixed him securely on his throne—the landing of a body of French soldiers at Torbay, under the command of Admiral Tourville after the shameful action with Torrington had left the French sailor for a few weeks master of the Channel.—

Tourville had, since the battle of Beachy Head, ranged the Channel unopposed. On the 21st of July his masts were seen from the rocks of Portland. On the 22nd he anchored in the harbour of Torbay, under the same heights which had, not many months before, sheltered the armament of William. The French fleet, which now had a considerable number of troops on board, consisted of 111 sail. The galley, which formed a large part of this force, resembled rather those ships with which Alcibiades and Lysander disputed the sovereignty of the Aegean than those which contended at the Nile and at Trafalgar. The galley was very long and very narrow, the deck not more than two feet from the water edge. Each galley was propelled by fifty or sixty huge oars, and each oar was tugged by five or six slaves. The full complement of slaves to a vessel was 336; the full complement of officers and soldiers 150. Of the unhappy rowers some were criminals who had been justly condemned to a life of hardship and danger: a few had been guilty only of adhering obstinately to the Huguenot worship: the great majority were purchased bondsmen, generally Turks and Moors. They were of course always forming plans for massacring their tyrants and escaping from servitude, and could be kept in order only by constant stripes and by the frequent infliction of death in horrible forms. An Englishman, who happened to fall in with about twelve hundred of these most miserable and most desperate of human beings on their road from Marseilles to join Tourville's squadron, heard them vowing that, if they came near a man-of-war bearing the cross of Saint George, she would never again see a French dockyard. In the Mediterranean galleys were in ordinary use: but none had ever before been seen on the stormy ocean which roars round our island. The flatterers of Lewis said that the appearance of such a squadron on the Atlantic was one of those wonders which were reserved for his reign; and a medal was struck at Paris to commemorate this bold experiment in maritime war. English sailors, with more reason, predicted that the first gale would send the whole of this fair-weather armament to the bottom of the Channel. Indeed the galley, like the ancient trireme, generally kept close to the shore, and ventured out of sight of land only when the water was unruffled and the sky serene. But the qualities

which made this sort of ship unfit to brave tempests and billows made it peculiarly fit for the purpose of landing soldiers. Tourville determined to try what effect would be produced by a disembarkation. The English Jacobites who had taken refuge in France were all confident that the whole population of the island was ready to rally round an invading army: and he probably gave them credit for understanding the temper of their countrymen. Never was there a greater error. Indeed, the French admiral is said by tradition to have received, while he was still out at sea, a lesson which might have taught him not to rely on the assurances of exiles. He picked up a fishing-boat, and interrogated the owner, a plain Sussex man, about the sentiments of the nation. "Are you," he said, "for King James?"—"I do not know much about such matters," answered the fisherman. "I have nothing to say against King James. He is a very worthy gentleman, I believe. God bless him!"—"A good fellow!" said Tourville: "then I am sure you will have no objection to take service with us."—"What!" cried the prisoner; "go with the French to fight against the English! Your honour must excuse me: I could not do it to save my life." This poor fisherman, whether he was a real or an imaginary person, spoke the sense of the nation. The beacon on the ridge overlooking Teignmouth was kindled: the High Tor and Causland made answer; and soon all the hill tops of the West were on fire. Messengers were riding hard all night from Deputy Lieutenant to Deputy Lieutenant. Early the next morning, without chief, without summons, 500 gentlemen and yeomen, armed and mounted, had assembled on the summit of Haldon Hill. In twenty-four hours all Devonshire was up. Every road in the county from sea to sea was covered by multitudes of fighting men, all with their faces set towards Torbay. The lords of a hundred manors, proud of their long pedigrees and old coats-of-arms, took the field at the head of their tenantry, Drakes, Prideauxes and Rolles, Fowell of Fowlescombe and Fulford of Fulford, Sir Bourchier Wray of Tawstock Park and Sir William Courtenay of Powderham Castle. Letters written by several of the Deputy Lieutenants who were most active during this anxious week are still preserved. All these letters agree in extolling the courage and enthusiasm of the people. But all agree also in expressing the most painful solicitude as to the result of an encounter between a raw militia and veterans who had served under Turenne and Luxembourg; and all call for the help of regular troops, in language very unlike that which, when the pressure of danger was not felt, country gentlemen were then in the habit of using about standing armies. Tourville, finding that the whole population was united as one man against him, contented himself with sending his galleys to ravage Teignmouth, now a gay watering-place consisting of twelve hundred houses, then an obscure village of about forty cottages. The inhabitants had fled. Their dwellings were burned: the venerable parish church was sacked, the pulpit and the communion table demolished, the Bibles and Prayer-Books torn and scattered about the roads: the cattle and pigs were slaughtered; and a few small vessels which were employed in fishing or in the coasting trade, were destroyed. By this time sixteen or seventeen thousand Devonshire men had encamped close to the shore; and all the neighbouring counties had risen. The tin mines of Cornwall had sent forth a great multitude of rude and hardy men mortally hostile to Popery. Ten thousand of them had just signed an address to the Queen, in which they had promised to stand by her against every enemy; and they now kept their word. In truth, the whole nation was stirred.

Mr. Macaulay has a long and careful account of the massacre of Glencoe: including a vindication, such as it is, of William's share in that act of memorable and atrocious severity. Our friends in Scotland will have many lances to break with the historian of this transaction, and we may very safely leave him in their hands. The general question being thus put aside, those who like to study motives and characters will be glad to see what Mr. Macaulay has to say about the share taken in the massacre by the Master of Stair—a subject which puzzled his

contemporaries and has puzzled posterity as greatly as most mysteries.—

"The Master of Stair was one of the first men of his time, a jurist, a statesman, a fine scholar, an eloquent orator. His polished manners and lively conversation were the delight of aristocratical societies; and none who met him in such societies would have thought it possible that he could bear the chief part in any atrocious crime. His political principles were lax, yet not more lax than those of most Scotch politicians of that age. Cruelty had never been imputed to him. Those who most disliked him did him the justice to own that, where his schemes of policy were not concerned, he was a very good-natured man. There is not the slightest reason to believe that he gained a single pound Scots by the act which has covered his name with infamy. He had no personal reason to wish the Glencoe men ill. There had been no feud between him and his family. His property lay in a district where their tartan was never seen. Yet he hated them with a hatred as fierce and implacable as if they had laid waste his fields, burned his mansion, murdered his child in the cradle."

The passions of Breadalbane and Argyll are easily understood. These chiefs were at feud with the Macdonalds. They had received insults and suffered wrongs. But the Master of Stair was a stranger to the clan: what then is the explanation of his share in the crime? Mr. Macaulay answers "a remorseless zeal for what seemed to him the interest of the state." He adds, by way of illustration:—

"We daily see men do for their party, for their sect, for their country, for their favourite schemes of political and social reform, what they would not do to enrich or to avenge themselves. At a temptation directly addressed to our private cupidity or to our private animosity, whatever virtue we have takes the alarm. But, virtue itself may contribute to the fall of him who imagines that it is in his power, by violating some general rule of morality, to confer an important benefit on a church, on a commonwealth, on mankind. He silences the remonstrances of conscience, and hardens his heart against the most touching spectacles of misery, by repeating to himself that his intentions are pure, that his objects are noble, that he is doing a little evil for the sake of a great good. By degrees he comes altogether to forget the turpitude of the means in the excellence of the end, and at length perpetrates without one internal twinge acts which would shock a buccaneer. There is no reason to believe that Dominic would, for the best archbishopric in Christendom, have incited ferocious marauders to plunder and slaughter a peaceful and industrious population, that Everard Digby would for a dukedom have blown a large assembly of people into the air, or that Robespierre would have murdered for hire one of the thousands whom he murdered from philanthropy. The Master of Stair seems to have proposed to himself a truly great and good end, the pacification and civilization of the Highlands. He was, by the acknowledgment of those who most hated him, a man of large views. He justly thought it monstrous that a third part of Scotland should be in a state scarcely less savage than New Guinea, that letters of fire and sword should, through a third part of Scotland, be, century after century, a species of legal process, and that no attempt should be made to apply a radical remedy to such evils. The independence affected by a crowd of petty sovereigns, the contumacious resistance which they were in the habit of offering to the authority of the Crown and of the Court of Session, their wars, their robberies, their fire-raisings, their practice of exacting black mail from people more peaceable and more useful than themselves, naturally excited the disgust and indignation of an enlightened and politic gowansman, who was, both by the constitution of his mind and by the habits of his profession, a lover of law and order. His object was no less than a complete dissolution and reconstruction of society in the Highlands, such a dissolution and reconstruction as, two generations later, followed the battle of Culloden. In his view the clans, as they existed, were the plagues of the kingdom; and of all the clans, the worst was that which inhabited Glencoe. He had, it is said, been particularly struck by a frightful instance of

the lawlessness and ferocity of those marauders. One of them, who had been concerned in some act of violence or rapine, had given information against his companions. He had been bound to a tree and murdered. The old chief had given the first stab; and scores of dirks had then been plunged into the wretch's body. By the mountaineers such an act was probably regarded as a legitimate exercise of patriarchal jurisdiction. To the Master of Stair it seemed that people among whom such things were done and were approved ought to be treated like a pack of wolves, snared by any device, and slaughtered without mercy. He was well read in history, and doubtless knew how great rulers had, in his own and other countries, dealt with such banditti. He doubtless knew with what energy and what severity James the Fifth had put down the moss-troopers of the border, how the chief of Henderland had been hung over the gate of the castle in which he had prepared a banquet for the King; how John Armstrong and his thirty-six horsemen, when they came forth to welcome their sovereign, had scarcely been allowed time to say a single prayer before they were all tied up and turned off. Nor probably was the Secretary ignorant of the means by which Sixtus the Fifth had cleared the ecclesiastical state of outlaws. The eulogists of that great pontiff tell us that there was one formidable gang which could not be dislodged from a stronghold among the Apennines. Beasts of burden were therefore loaded with poisoned food and wine, and sent by a road which ran close to the fastness. The robbers salied forth, seized the prey, feasted, and died; and the pious old Pope exulted greatly when he heard that the corpses of thirty ruffians, who had been the terror of many peaceful villages, had been found lying among the mules and packages. The plans of the Master of Stair were conceived in the spirit of James and of Sixtus; and the rebellion of the mountaineers furnished what seemed to be an excellent opportunity for carrying those plans into effect."

Here, for the moment, we must pause. Next week we propose to return to these animated and pictorial volumes.

The Natural History of the Tineina. Vol. I.
By H. T. Stainton, Assisted by Prof. Zeller
and J. W. Douglas. Van Voorst.

It has for a long time been obvious that the Entomologists of this country, and, to a certain extent, those of the Continent also, have been gradually forming themselves into a distinct "group" of the great class of Naturalists, and, step by step, have been isolating themselves and taking up a separate position. There really appears upon the face of this proceeding no more reason why the students of the habits and classification of insects should thus constitute themselves a set of separatists than should the Ornithologists, the Malacologists, or the cultivators of any other specific department of Natural History. It will, of course, be readily granted that, however enlarged may be the views of any true student of Nature, he will, from circumstances, find himself, at some time or other, led to the more especial investigation of one portion of the great whole; but we cannot withhold the expression of our strong conviction, that so exclusive a segregation as that to which we have alluded must, in an exact ratio to its strictness, contract the views of those who adopt it, and unfit them for those enlarged generalizations which, in truth, essentially characterize the true naturalist, and form the great distinction between the man of science and the mere collector and observer.

But this is not all. Not only are the entomologists thus separating themselves as a body from the general naturalists,—not only is it common, or rather the general rule, that the most accomplished cultivator of entomology knows nothing whatever of natural science beyond the limits of his chosen class of animals, and has no enlarged and expanded intercourse with the great totality of organized beings,

but the entomologists themselves are split up into sections, as they are cultivators of the various groups of the great class whose name they bear, so that it is no unusual thing that the man who adds himself to the study of one order of insects does it so exclusively, that the Coleopterist shall be utterly unacquainted with the habits, structure, and classification of butterflies or bees, and the Lepidopterist, or the Hymenopterist, shall be equally ignorant of the whole tribe of Coleoptera, or of any other order or family of the class, excepting that which he has adopted as peculiarly his own. This subdivision of labour, however, is in some degree the inevitable result of the multitudinous numbers of which this great section of the Animal Kingdom is composed, and which render an acquaintance with all the species of single order the work of a life. At the same time, it would not, perhaps, be difficult to account for that separation of the entomologists into a distinct class of naturalists, to which we have adverted. The objects of their study form a somewhat isolated class, and the minor groups into which they are combined are clear and distinct. Their characters, also, however minute, are tangible and permanent. They are, for the most part, easily preserved in cabinets, and they present some of the most beautiful forms, adorned with charming combinations of colouring, in the whole creation. Above all, their habits, especially those of many of the social tribes, their transformations, and other phenomena of their being, are fraught with the most fascinating interest; whilst their pursuit and investigation associate the observer with every phase of country scenery,—with woods, and fields, and mountains, and the sea side, and the walls and moat of the ruined castle, and a thousand scenes which possess never-failing charms for the lover of Nature and of the Beautiful, independently of the pursuit which brings him into contact with them.

It is not our object now to enter into the question how far true science is furthered, or otherwise, by the splitting off from the Societies instituted for its promotion of such smaller associations, formed with the more circumscribed object of cultivating the subordinate departments, as we see in the Entomological, the Botanical, and other similar Societies. We are quite aware that much may be said on both sides; and, perhaps, on some future occasion we may be led to examine the nature of the influence which such a separation exercises. Our present object is to record a remarkable example of that minute subdivision to which allusion has been made.

Mr. Stainton has long been known as a zealous and indefatigable, and, therefore, successful, observer and collector of those minute Lepidopterous forms which, under the old generic names of *Tinea* and *Tortrix*, have puzzled many a patient student, who, with lens in hand and serious brow, has devoted hours, and days, and months to their examination, with the sole object, and with the sole result, of determining whether an insect of a line in length, and weighing the infinitesimal fraction of a grain, has one little silvery band, or one microscopical dot on the wing, more or less than its exiguous congener. Such, however, we must confess, is not the observer with whom we have now to do. Mr. Stainton has not only been laboriously, and doubtless with that interest which only such a patient inquisitor as himself can appreciate, collecting, and, as we are informed, absolutely setting—as the technical phrase is—multitudes of these tiny things; but he has followed out in a marvellous number of instances their whole history and transformations, and is now in the course of publishing the results of his investigations. We will not too

critically inquire into the *cui bono* of these researches, nor ask what light they have thrown upon the general laws of organization or of form. Mr. Stainton is not, however, a mere collector and describer. He is eminently an observer; and his enthusiasm and earnestness form an amusing but praiseworthy contrast to the apparent insignificance of their objects. We give one brief specimen of his method. The subject of the following passage is *Nepticula aurella*; and we confine ourselves to the account of its habits.

How Noticeable.—Larva. — Few persons can have failed to observe, especially at the commencement of spring, that the leaves of the common bramble are frequently marked with small serpentine whitish blotches — sometimes several in one leaf. These blotches are the mines of the larva of *N. aurella*. When they are very conspicuous, that is of itself an indication that their tenants have deserted them; but if we search more closely we shall probably find among many mines some which are only slightly discoloured, and in these the larvae are still feeding. — *How Noticeable.—Imago.* — In windy, yet sunny weather, in the months of May and August, this little moth may sometimes be observed on paling and trunks of trees. — *Mode of Life.* — The egg is deposited on the under surface (rarely on the upper surface) of the bramble leaf; immediately it is hatched the larva bores into the leaf, and commences feeding between the skins on the upperlayer of parenchyma, and proceeds in an irregular, not contorted, wavy path of moderate width. The mined place, which is only visible on the upper surface of the leaf, is at first greenish-grey, gradually changing to greenish-white, and along the centre of it is a string of blackish excrement. When the larva is full fed, it makes a fissure in the upper side of the leaf, and creeps out, the place it had just occupied being distinguished by the absence of any grains of excrement. Arrived at the outside of the leaf, the larva hastens to seek a secure place (probably on the ground, amongst leaves), and there spins rather a flat cocoon, of an irregular shape, with scalloped edges, and of a colour varying from pale dirty-green to pale brown; in this it changes to a pupa, and at the expiration of three weeks, or longer if the weather be cold, the pupa protrudes its head through one end of the cocoon, and its skin cracking, the imago is liberated. There are several broods in the year, and the brambles being evergreen, the larva may be found in mild seasons throughout the winter. April, July, and October may be considered as the principal months in which the larva feeds, and the imago is plentiful in May and June, and not uncommon in August."

The first volume of the present work is all that has yet appeared; but we are promised a volume a year for at least the next twenty years! The work is wholly written in four languages, English, French, German, and Latin, which are printed in parallel columns. It is as well done as such a work can be; and it is unnecessary to praise the illustrations, when we say that they were drawn by the late Mr. Wing, who was perhaps unequalled in his own peculiar department of Art. The descriptions are full, and yet precise; the criticism on former authors is just; and the account of the habits of the little animals graphic and amusing.

ILLUSTRATED BOOKS.

YEARS have elapsed since the merry Christmas time brought us so many charming illustrated works. A fortnight ago we introduced a number of these beautiful books to the acquaintance of our readers; and we have still a few more, not less graceful and appropriate, to announce.

Of all the volumes of the present Christmas—volumes which will take their place in favourite corners of the book-case, after having occupied for a season favourite positions on the drawing-room table—we shall value none more highly on the score of artistic embellishment than the

Illustrated Irish Melodies. (Longman & Co.) — Moore has been unusually happy in his Art-interpreters; his genius being of that graceful and superficial kind most easily translated into another medium. But this edition of the 'Melodies' throws all former efforts into shadow. Among the artists employed are Messrs. Macline, Mulready, E. M. Ward, Cope, Creswick, and Frith (printed Forth)—six Royal Academicians, besides Associates and others. Mr. Mulready illustrates 'Love, Valour, Wit for ever!' with a beautiful and vigorous pyramid of these figures. Mr. Frost's 'O'Donoghue and the Naiads' is pretty and fanciful, with beauty in the white steed and voluptuous elegance in the nude figures of the water-goddesses. It is Moore's fault, perhaps, as much as Mr. Frost's that there is some poetical confusion between the forms of Greek and Irish superstition. Moore talks of Naiads and Mr. Frost draws them; though we doubt whether these soft-limbed ladies are as well known at Killarney as in Arcady. The gem of the volume, however, is a sketch by Mr. Ward,—the appropriateness of which to the lines quoted under it we unfortunately do not see. It is a picture full of gloom, drama, and festivity. Byron—there is no mistaking the likeness or the scene in which he plays his part—is standing in the midnight, near the open window of an ancient hall (it may be a corner of Annesley), and is watching with a fierce and maddened brow the revellers within,—his adored mistress whirling past in the arms of her fox-hunting suitor. The silence, the repose of nature, with the moonlight on the terrace, and the stars shining through the trees, and the roses nodding on the wall, contrast sweetly with the beautiful and troubled countenance of the poet, so full of true pathos, jealousy, and power. Within, all is splendour. Lights are blazing, radiant forms are floating in the dance. No one seems to miss the passionate dreamer, who has fled from torment to nature,—but without the resignation which suffers nature to heal the wounds of the heart. The agony of that night of despairing passion was enough to make Byron a poet; and the thought of it has made Mr. Ward one.

Pious and gentle George Herbert has given work to the illustrators of sacred song. Messrs. J. Clayton and B. Foster have this year furnished his *Poetical Works* (Nisbet) with some forty sketches, chiefly of landscapes, churches, stiles, and rural scenes,—and Mr. Humphreys has furnished an ornamental title-page and a wreath to contain the dedication. Most of the illustrations are elegant and attractive: the glens, and tangles, and underwoods are exquisite in taste and composition. This volume, we predict, will be chief favourite in many households. Moore for the sprightly—Herbert for the serious!

Between the two classes lies a third, perhaps more numerous than either; and for them we have a special favourite in reserve. If there be any public for which Moore is too gay, and Herbert too grave, such a public will most probably be a public for Goldsmith. *The Traveller* (Bogue) is issued as Christmas book, with thirty etchings on steel by Mr. B. Foster, whose prolific hands seem equal to any amount of demand that may be laid on them by the publishers. We shall not be surprised to hear that 'The Traveller' turns out to be the gift-book of the year.

Analytical View of Sir Isaac Newton's Principia. By Henry Lord Brougham, and E. J. Routh, B.A. Longman & Co.

It used to be a current observation in France, that men lose their taste for mathematics as they

become old. This, if it be true for France, is not true for England. The late Mr. Lockhart carried on his studies in the numerical solution of equations at his *shooting-box* in a Scottish island, when he was long past eighty; and actually published his last work at the age of eighty-seven. Lord Brougham, who cannot live to be seventy-five for a reason given in the Peerage books, and who wrote a paper on *Orisms* for the *Philosophical Transactions* fifty-eight years ago, now publishes a work such as men of his age sometimes look back upon with satisfaction, but very rarely attempt to look forward to.

In the course of his long legal and political life, Lord Brougham has never quite given up the mathematics; and since his elevation to the peerage, he has been a keen student of the modern analysis. Every one knows the preliminary treatise which he wrote for the Diffusion Society; but every one does not know the anecdote of the newspaper criticism on this pamphlet. And yet it is worth preservation. The life of a practising barrister, especially if he should happen to be a leader in the House of Commons, is not very favourable to accurate writing on foreign subjects. The manuscript, containing some errors of fact and some of expression, was therefore duly submitted to a professed man of science, who returned it with the errors unnoticed. Perhaps he could not read it, for the influences of law and politics are not favourable to legibility of penmanship; and Lord Brougham may then, as now, have used such contractions as put his correspondents at their wits' ends. The work was accordingly printed,—containing, among other things, a phrase by which it might seem that gravity varied with the distance from the earth's *surface*, instead of the *centre*. This a Tory Sunday paper could not tolerate in a Whig,—and, accordingly, a Correspondent was invented to expose it. This correspondent, professing that he was misled to believe his little boy would weigh much less in the garret than in the kitchen, reported that he had tried in both places, and had found the weight of the child the same in both. The worthy editor did not see that the experiment did not expose the error, nor show it to be one; for the weights would have abated in weight just as much as the boy, and the balance would have been as perfect in the garret as in the kitchen, even if gravity had really varied from the surface.

Lord Brougham has availed himself in this work of the assistance of Mr. Routh, the Senior Wrangler of 1854. Those who cannot forget the politician in the writer will be apt to suppose that the Senior Wrangler is the author of all the mathematical parts. But—to say nothing of the number of mathematicians who are personally aware of the character of the Chancellor's studies—the book itself shows a *Newtonianism* in its mathematics, which no young Cambridge man, left to himself, either could or would have adopted. We need hardly tell our readers that the study of the Principia, in its crude form, is almost extinct at Cambridge, and all but quite extinct on the Continent.

The object of the work, as stated by the author, is, first, to assist those who are desirous of understanding the truths unfolded in the Principia, and of knowing upon what foundation rests the claim of that work to be regarded as the greatest monument of human genius: secondly, to explain the connexion of its various parts with each other, and with the preceding and the subsequent progress of the science.

The first object we hold to have been fully attained. It can only be tested by asking the question, what would this book do for the young student of the Principia? We have no doubt it would assist him very much; and this, in

great measure, because its mathematics do not consist of that high calculus with which the most modern Continental writers on gravitation set out, but of the now common and ordinary differential calculus. There did not, to our knowledge, exist any attainable commentary on the Principia, or its major part, except that of Le Sür and Jacquier, always dry, often unedifying, and replete with mathematics of form now exploded. The works which take special parts usually select the first book; the subjects of the second book, to which Lord Brougham has especially attended, are commonly left to be considered as parts of hydrostatics and pneumatics. To those who, though versed in modern mathematics, have never opened the Principia, this work will give an idea of Newton's actual mode and form of reasoning.

The second of the objects above mentioned can only be judged to have been attained in a relative manner. The work is an octavo volume of 442 pages; and within such space it would be impossible to explain the connexion of the parts of the Principia with one another, and with the preceding and subsequent progress of science. Again, we here come upon points of difference, and we find matters lightly touched upon which, in a full account of the connexions stated, would need to have been elaborately discussed. We may well abstain from pronouncing generally upon the matters into which controversy might enter; but we are fully justified in saying that the beginner will find much profit in the short descriptions which are given of the labours of subsequent writers. Lord Brougham is a strong *Newtonian*: his veneration for Newton is a pointed feature in a character of which veneration is not one of the most common excesses. The House of Commons is not the school in which this organ of the phrenologists is especially developed; neither is the Bar; neither is the *Edinburgh Review*.

We might maintain all our judgment, if the plan of our journal allowed us to go into actual mathematics. Warned off this ground, we shall make a few additions to one of Lord Brougham's notes, which is on the well-worn subject of Galileo's persecution.

There is no end of the strange assertions which are made on this celebrated case. A few weeks ago, a literary periodical informed us that Copernicus was excommunicated; though it is notorious that no question arose about his system before the Inquisition till more than sixty years after his death; and equally notorious that no church casts dead men out of its communion. Again, it is very frequently supposed that the work of Copernicus was absolutely forbidden. Such a prohibition did exist from 1616 to 1620, but in this last year the corrections under which it was to be permitted were promulgated, and from that time the work appears in the Index only as a *nisi corrigatur*. These corrections are small enough in amount, and any one might make them with his pen in less than half an hour. Further, it is assumed that the decree of the Roman Inquisition, and of the Roman Congregation of the Index, was a general decree, binding upon all spiritual subjects of Rome. And yet any one may ask, where it is to be found that the Spanish Inquisition, for example, was bound by any act of its Roman brother. These misapprehensions are important, inasmuch as they furnish the defenders of the system under which Galileo was condemned with an answer. The point which cannot be answered is, that the Church allowed the local condemnation to continue, without interference, for at least two centuries. Lord Brougham leaves it doubtful whether the decree against Galileo has been reversed or not. He quoted Drinkwater (Bethune), who affirms it was not reversed in 1828; and Lyell,

who affirms that Scarpellini told him at Rome, in 1828, that it had been repealed under Pius the Seventh by the Congregation of the Index. Here we rather quarrel with the noble expositor: he was just the man to have ascertained this point. A letter to Cardinal Wiseman would have received an answer, or been left unanswered; and either case would have settled the question. Even now, our remarks may induce some person who can decide it to give us the information. Have the books of Copernicus and Galileo been removed from the Index,—and, if so, when?

That the sentence upon Galileo has never been reversed, we have no doubt; nor that the declaration of falsehood and heresy in the earth's motion has been allowed to stand. And for these reasons:—Galileo, whatever his philosophical merits might be, was acting heretically, according to the maxims of the Roman Church, in persisting publicly to interpret the Scriptures in a Copernican sense, or in any sense; and the declaration of the Inquisition needed no reversal, for it never was, nor could be, considered, upon the maxims of the same Church, as binding on the conscience of any one, except the person on his trial, after his abjuration. Fromond and Riccioli, the two strongest anti-Copernican Roman Catholic writers of the seventeenth century, both distinctly declare that the Inquisition has no authority in a matter of faith; and both distinctly pronounce that it is necessary the Pope himself should decide the point. That no Pope ever did interfere, that the Church permitted the apparent settlement of the question, and consented by inaction to the presumptuous declaration of its local judicature, is the real scandal; and it will be a scandal to the end of time.

Most readers of the history of science know the celebrated prefix of Le Sür and Jacquier to the third book of their edition of Newton, published at Rome in 1742. We have always suspected the worthy Fathers, not merely of satire, but of something more. They set forth that they are obliged to write in a feigned character because Newton had assumed the earth's motion, and could not be commented on, except under the same assumption. But, add they, we profess obedience to the *decrees promulgated by supreme Pontiffs* against the motion of the earth. Satirical enough; not *contra doctrinam telluris motu*, but *contra motum*. But who ever affirmed that any supreme Pontiff issued a decree on the subject? All tolerably well informed Protestants, and of course all Roman Catholics, are aware that nothing appeared except from the Cardinals of the Index and of the Inquisition. Our surmise is, that the two editors wanted to be called to account—wanted to be reminded by authority that the censure was entirely from inferior courts, and did not justify such a use of the name of any Pope whatever. If our surmise be correct, it was a blunder not to give them what they wanted; for their declaration has made many believe that the doctrine was condemned *ex cathedra*.

MINOR MINSTRELS.

The Poetical Works of Augustine Duganne. (Philadelphia, Parry & M'Millan.)—A display of "grand manners" is to be admired in the Preface to this handsomely-printed book, which is heralded also with a carefully-engraved portrait of Mr. Duganne. Whether modesty presided over its publication may be questioned. Mr. James Lesley writes to the author, in a most stately and panegyrical form, as to one—"whose noble Lyrics have been the timely Movers of Governmental Reforms—whose 'Iron Lyre' hath struck responsive Chord in the Breast of the Man of Labor, teaching him the divine Dignity of his

Calling—whose stirring Strains have cheered the struggling Patriot in the Van of European Freedom, and whose tenderer Harp has ever been touched for the Moving of pure Thoughts and loving Impulses." Mr. Lesley further begs of Mr. Duganne, "as a Courtesy," to be allowed "to put forth in fitting Guise a complete Book of [his] Poesy." Thus apostrophized, Mr. Duganne, in an epistle to Mr. Lesley,—which commences with "the Existence of Florinda's Fountain, whence old Ponce de Leon sought to drink perpetual Youth,"—accepts Mr. Lesley's friendly offer:—and this splendid looking volume is the result. But, after such a Preface, such verse as it contains may be likened to the note of a singing Mouse following the majestic rumbling of some volcanic Mountain. Mr. Duganne has oracularly said, in his "Parnassus in Pillory,"—

If poets seek the muse's bright empyrean,
They'll first do well to reach the heart's criterion.

—What the "heart's criterion" may be it is not the easiest thing in the world to determine:—so we are not sure whether Mr. Duganne has reached it or not. We are sure that his satirical verse is harmless and loosely rhymed. For example, we doubt whether "Philadelphia" and "himself ear" are good rhymes. Mr. Duganne's "Iron Harp" belongs to an Iron Age of popular verse,—and his 'Metrical Miscellanies' are Metrical Mysteries. The following is of simple quality and better execution,—the best lyric, we think, in the whole portly volume.—

I sit beside my gentle one:
Her hand is laid in mine;
And thus we watch the parting sun
In golden haze decline.
Across the fields the shadows creep,
And up the misty hill;
And we our vigil vigils keep,
At our own cottage-sill.

The distant brooklet's murmur come,
Like bell-notes through the leaves;
And many an insect's many hum
Its dreamy music weaves.
The dove's last note, in rippling beats,
Upon the air departs;
The breath of all our garden sweets
Is creeping to our hearts.

The russet woodbine round our porch,
In clustering ringlets twines;
The hawthorn-aisle's crimson torch
Gleams through the dusty vines;
The sunset rays are trembling now,
Amid the trellis-bars—
They paint upon my darling's brow
A glory like the stars.

Her cheek is nestling on my breast,
Her eyes are bright with tears;
A prayer, half-breath'd and half-repeat'd,
My listening spirit hears.
Oh! blessed be the changeless love—
That glorifies my life!
All doubt, all fear, all guile above—
My own true-hearted wife!

Agamemnon the King: a Tragedy, from the Greek of Aeschylus. By William Blew, M.A. (Longman & Co.)—It may be thought a case of misnomer and displacement to rank among the Minor Minstrels a Master of Arts, who presents us with one of the master-pieces of Greek Drama, elaborately rendered and prefaced by a carefully-prepared treatise on versification, translation, and other kindred topics. But it is not the theme that gives the singer his place: since sometimes the weakest persons are the most eager in attempting sublime subjects. It is fitness for theme, proved in his song, by which the poet must be ranked. Mr. Blew cannot be called weak,—but we cannot think him Greek. In his desire to give spirit to his version, he has fallen into involutions of phrase, and confusions of language such as make his translation in many scenes and pages unreadable. A few instances, all derived from the opening Hymn, will sufficiently illustrate our meaning.—

Here, there, and everywhere
Scaling heaven's topmost stair
The torch-flame lifts its lengthening trail in air,
Drugged with pure oils, of richest perfume wrought,

Incentives soft and unadulterate,
A kingly moulded cate
From a king's chamber brought.

Subsequently we read of "the Suasion of sweet song,"—encounter such Scotticisms as "rajd" and "wellaway!" in connexion with "the Atreidae" and "Priam's Hold."—Later, we come upon the following pair of lines:—

A terrible House-stewardess, a Fury of fierce wrath,
Strong memored, vengeful, full of guile, quiting the
children's scath.

—Lastly, if further illustration of our criticism be needed, we will give the seven opening lines of the Fourth Strophe from the same Hymn.—

But after that put had he
The poitrel of necessity,
Breathing a godless shift of mind,
Impure, unshallowed, with a blind
Wild whirl as of the veering wind,
He changed his purpose, and inclined
All things to brave and bear.

Now we submit, that while it is noble to translate from the Greek, it is necessary for an English translator to translate into English:—and we assert, that the passages above cited are not English. They belong neither to the language of our ballad-minstrels, nor to that of our scholars and poets. There is a language adequate to the original, clear of dryness, but grammatical,—honestly heart-touching, familiar without coarseness,—to be found by any competent person who seeks. Shakspeare could turn Queen Katharine's defence, reported almost *verbatim*, into one of the most touching appeals existing in tragedy. He could be Roman in his 'Julius Caesar,' and Egyptian in his 'Cleopatra,' and Hebrew in 'Shylock,'—and yet always be English. We do not expect to find Shakspeare in every one who tries to translate Eschylus; but the spell of Shakspeare's language—nearest in flow, directness, simplicity and pathos to the language of the Bible—is worth studying by those who write drama, or who attempt to render the dramatic poetry of one literature into the speech of another country and period. That Mr. Blew has been a student too miscellaneous may be gathered from his 'Notes and Illustrations,' which range between G. Fletcher and Glover, 'Titus Andronicus' and 'The New Timon,'—Ben Jonson and Mr. Bliss, the author of 'Robespierre.'

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Dramatic Works of James Sheridan Knowles. 2 vols. (Routledge & Co.)—Certain paragraphs in which the *Athenæum* some eight years ago [No. 1009] presented a general character of Mr. Sheridan Knowles as a dramatist, on the occasion of his publishing 'George Lovell: A Novel'—have "turned up" again, and are incorporated in the Preface of this new and cheap edition of the Dramas—an edition which, we are told, has received careful revision from the hands of the author. We are thus absolved from doing much beyond announcing the publication. It is sure to find a place in every dramatic library, if only because every *débutante* will long like to try her power over tears or laughter as *Julie* and *Neighbour Constance*, and every severe tragedian will adventure as *Virginius* or *William Tell*. It may be asserted that a good light part for an actor is not to be found in these plays. Neither do they contain one of those types in right of which Drama ceases to be merely ephemeral literature; but, by representing that humanity which is of all time in some striking and novel form, enriches not merely our knowledge of Nature, but our gallery of Art. It should be recollect, however, that the type-makers among our modern serious dramatists are few—a fact which, if wrought out and illustrated, would throw some light upon the nature and limits of Tragedy as compared with those of Comedy. For such illustration the present place and time are hardly fit; and, indeed, the matter had only been touched, lest the exception made should be thought to press with unfair severity on

those to whom the world of playgoers is indebted for so much healthy pleasure. It remains but to be added, that these volumes are neatly produced.

The Red-Brick House. By Hester Lynch (Johnston & Hunter).—This story is an improvement upon 'Millie Howard.' The intention with which it is written is equally excellent; but the skill with which the present story is constructed—it interest, and the greater probability of the incidents,—mark a great progress in the art of authorcraft. The style, too, is much better. Setting, however, all comparisons aside, which in this case at least are not "odious," the story of 'The Red-Brick House' is extremely interesting, and indicates the possession of more power than the author has yet put forth. The picture of the desolate home, after the guilty flight of the wife and mother, is done well, and has a quiet power that makes it very effective. We expect that the authoress will do still better things.

Malvern; or, the Three Marriages. By Mrs. Hubbard. 3 vols. (Skeet).—This is an improvement upon Mrs. Hubbard's former work, 'May and December'; the characters and incidents are more natural and lifelike; and there is scarcely a trace of the false morality and infatuated amiability which spoiled that novel. Readers acquainted with Malvern and its localities will find a special interest in this work. The story is pleasant and well sustained; but the conversations are too long and too flat for any patient reader; though they are, no doubt, the average of the kind of speeches that are spoken in the establishment. If more space had been given to the character and machinations of the uncle, whose disputed identity is the chief interest in the book, and the conversations had been cut down to a reasonable length, and less had been said about the elegant distresses of the young ladies, the interest of the story would have been greatly strengthened.

The Yellow Frigate; or, the Three Sisters. By James Grant. (Routledge & Co.).—Mr. Grant is not lucky in his present novel. There has evidently been a great deal of research and much pains taken to give the historical colouring and details, but the book is tumultuous and confused, and dreadfully hard to read. The scene is laid in Scotland in 1488, and it is a long way back for our sympathies. It takes more than accurate dates and costumes and antique phraseology to carry a reader willingly into times so far removed from the present. Mr. Grant has written so many entertaining books that he may be pardoned for having made 'The Yellow Frigate' less interesting than his usual novels.

The Battle on the Bosphorus. By F. C. Armstrong, Esq. 3 vols. (Newby).—The characters in this novel are chiefly Venetian senators, bravos, spies, and conspirators. They all walk about in black masks and disguises of various kinds. Of course, there is much moonlight and swimming in gondolas. The hero is a young knight of "gigantic stature, clad in complete armour," who does wonderful deeds. The most virtuous character is a benevolent bravo, who helps the ends of poetical justice. The ladies all have lovers; and the book ends happily, of course.

Nonpareil House; or, the Fortunes of Julian Mountjoy. By Henry Curing. 3 vols. (Hall & Co.).—Every body knows the story of Fortunio and his seven gifted servants. Julian Mountjoy appears to be the prince and all his servants rolled into one:—no wonder that he achieves all manner of success. If there is a conspiracy, he is sure to overhear the conspirators; if there are stone walls, he sees through them; if there are subterranean passages, he finds them out. He goes incredibly long journeys, carrying treasures of gold and silver—to say nothing of jewels,—in miraculously short periods of time, and goes out of Scotland into France, and from France back again, in defiance of bad roads and civil wars, for it is a tale of the times of Charles the First. We should have some difficulty in counting up the number of justifiable homicides he commits in the course of the three volumes; and his turns of fortune and wonderful escapes are too numerous to mention. In fine, Julian Mountjoy was apparently born to be the hero of a romance, and nothing else. The book is amusing; and some of the descriptions of

English country life in the seventeenth century are well done. The Squire's family hiding from their pursuers is a good and probable picture of the state of things in those days.

The Elements of Practical Hydraulics. By Samuel Downing, M.A. (Longman & Co.).—A perfect knowledge of the laws by which the motions of fluids are regulated is of the first importance to the engineer. In several cases connected with the water supply of towns, the sewerage of large cities, and the drainage of lands, serious errors have been committed, leading to a large unnecessary outlay, entirely through the ignorance of the individuals to whom those works were intrusted of the first principles of hydraulics. Prof. Downing, of Trinity College, Dublin, who may be regarded as one of our most competent authorities upon points of hydraulic engineering, has here produced a treatise which cannot but prove acceptable to all. The formulæ adopted by Prof. Downing have been selected as having stood the trial of severe application in the construction of some of the largest works in this country and in France, which have been found to fulfil perfectly their intended objects. 'The Elements of Practical Hydraulics' may, therefore, be considered as based on an experience the most reliable, and of all others the most valuable to the civil engineer. Prof. Downing has bestowed considerable labour on his work; and we have no doubt but that it will become a text-book to the engineering student far beyond the limits of the Dublin University.

An Essay on the Tides: Theory of the Two Forces. By Alexander Wilcocks, M.D. (Philadelphia, Parry & M'Millan).—The writer of this essay endeavours to show that the Newtonian theory of the tides is insufficient for the explanation of all their phenomena. He propounds a theory of his own, based on a supposed unequal distribution of the centrifugal force, as well as of the attraction of the sun and moon; and he suggests the probability that this cause of inequality may, in connexion with "the declination of the luminaries, give an explanation to some phenomena which have hitherto defied it." Although we cannot say we feel satisfied with Dr. Wilcocks's reasoning, we are bound to confess ourselves completely so with the temperate and logical manner in which he places his theory before the reader.

An Elementary Treatise on Mechanics. By S. Parkinson, B.D. (Cambridge, Macmillan & Co.).—Almost ever tutor at our Universities publishes an elementary treatise, which may serve as a textbook to the students of his own class; and he is of course well pleased if it is adopted in other schools. The book now before us is intended for the use of the junior classes at the University and the higher classes in schools. It will be understood from the title that it treats of the laws of rest and motion of matter, or of statics and dynamics. We cannot say that this treatise is either better or worse than several others which we have noticed. It includes those portions of theoretical mechanics which can be conveniently investigated without the Differential Calculus; and beyond this it is so constructed, that "the student is not presumed to require a knowledge of any branches of mathematics beyond the elements of algebra, geometry, and trigonometry." These remarks will sufficiently indicate the aim of this work; and it is but justice to the author to say, that, as a manual for the classes for which it is intended, we do not know of a better book.

Elementary Chemistry of the Imponderable Agents and of Inorganic Bodies, &c. By John Scovell, M.B. (Houlston & Stoneman).—From the title we are led to infer that this book is an original one by Dr. Scovell. From the preface, which—as the work has been published in parts, being a section of the 'Circle of the Sciences'—only appears when the issue is completed, we find it is the "last edition of Dr. Henry's Treatise on Chemistry, published nearly thirty years since," re-edited by Dr. Scovell. This is not the first time this author has been issuing in a way not quite satisfactory the works of men of science. Dr. Henry's work taken as a basis on which to build a treatise of modern chemistry is, it must be admitted, a good one. But the author who under-

took this task should possess above all things the painstaking care of that excellent chemist. Dr. Scoffern informs us that he commenced the work in 1852, and then, as if conscious of the manifest want of care displayed, he pleads his excuse for "inaccuracies" on the plea that the volume has been "produced in a serial form, hurriedly and at intervals." In a scientific work such a plea cannot be admitted; and we do not see in what way it can apply to a work which has been confessedly three years in the author's hands, and of which a very large portion was written thirty years since.

The fourth volume of *A Plain Commentary on the Four Holy Gospels, intended chiefly for Devotional Reading*, has been issued in two parts. The commentator construes elaborately every text in the Book of St. John, but his remarks are more reflective than critical.—A new work by the Rev. Albert Barnes, *The Way to Salvation, illustrated in a Series of Discourses*, edited by the Rev. E. Henderson, is sure of many English readers. The author's Preface is dated at Philadelphia.—Religion is treated from a different point of view in various polemical Essays on our table:—*In The Church of England not descended from the Church of Rome*, by Caroline Catherine Lucas,—*In A Caution against Images, Pictures, and Superstitious Decorations, Intoning, Chanting, and other Frivolities in the House of God*, by W. Peace,—"A Layman"—and in *An Examination of the Rev. R. J. Wilberforce's Charges against the Church of England, contained in his 'Inquiry into the Principles of Church Authority.'*—*The Seasons of the Church, what they Teach*, is the first part of a series of sermons, edited by the Rev. H. Newland, "On the Different Times and Occasions of the Christian Year."—*In What is Wanted*, by a writer who assumes with constitutional coolness that he is "An Orthodox Christian," Mr. J. C. Ryle is "answered,"—certain "democrats" are rebuked, and a club is proposed "where measures may be concocted for the Churches' secular welfare."—*The Signs of the Times*, edited by "John Knox," refers to the past, the present, and the future,—to religion, politics, and Socialism, and presents, among other singularities, a statement of "a perilous fact."

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Spirits and Water, by R. J. L., post 8vo. 3s. 6d. bds.
Wallace's Princess Isle, a Legend, 4to. 5s. cl.

Charles, or some one, had spread to him; and he honoured all with his good word."

This humour for *pilgrimage*, however warped or influenced, lived in Mr. Rogers to the last years of his life. His mind (under conditions) was to the last open to admire and appreciate, and this, perhaps, was one main secret of his poetical success.

To complete our notice of his career as a Poet, it may be told that the 'Pleasures of Memory' was followed at an interval of twenty years by his 'Columbus.' To this succeeded 'Jacqueline,' which originally appeared together with Lord Byron's 'Lara' (union soon followed by a separation), 'Human Life,' and lastly 'Italy.' The illustration of the last-named poem was the last task for the public undertaken by the author:—a task, it may be added, beyond the compass of any one less easy in fortunes, since the production of that volume is said to have cost 10,000*£*, and the days had not then set in when cheap literature on the one hand had been balanced by a luxury in typography and engraving undreamed of by our fathers. There can be no question that the taste, no less than the cost, brought to bear on this volume, in which some of the most exquisite designs of Turner alternate with those of Stothard, mark a period in the history of English book illustration. To this day Rogers's 'Italy' remains without a peer.

Setting accessories aside for the moment, a word may be said in regard to the place of Mr. Rogers among modern English poets. His poetry is select rather than brilliant. He produced very sparingly,—he polished every line with a fastidiousness fatal to vigour,—and seemed so little equal to the labour and fatigue attending on a sustained flight, that two of his poems on most ambitious subjects, 'The Voyage of Columbus' and 'Italy,' were given forth to the world in the form of fragments. His 'Pleasures of Memory' stands midway betwixt Goldsmith and Campbell, though not on the level of either. Measured against that beautiful poem of the affections, 'Copper's Lines on his Mother's Picture,' the reminiscences of Mr. Rogers are faint. The heart in them beats languidly, though the music is "tender and gravely sweet." The symmetry of the versification, nevertheless, has installed several passages among our stock quotations. There are lines and cadences in 'Jacqueline,' slight as is the structure of the story, that take possession of the heart through the ear,—and which, by all who are not exclusively given over to the modern style of mystical meaning and rugged versification, will not willingly be let go. Betwixt the indulgent fondness of those to whom these things are already "pleasures of memory," and the recusant spirit of a younger school, too apt to attest its vigour and audacity by undervaluing those who have preceded it, we may stand ill for a fair judgment of these poems. But they will remain, we think, for future critics to test and try, and future lovers of verse to love, in the silver, if not in the "golden" book of English poetry. Again, in the 'Italy' of Rogers we have not the Italy of those passions, "sudden and lasting," which Byron sang,—nor the Italy of violent words and painfully inconclusive deeds, which has been so sad a sight to more modern pilgrims,—but the Italy of "ruins and the vine." The gentler appearances of its "fatal beauty" have rarely been more gracefully sung than by Rogers; and though his pictures may be undervalued as too smooth and feeble on a first reading, there are not a few who after passing the Alps have been surprised, like ourselves, to find how their truth of traits and tones, the quiet musical harmony of some single line, or the sentiment of the entire fragment, calls them up again—as familiar melodies recalled by the sights of the way.

Rogers must be commemorated as one who, for more than half-a-century past, has figured in the foremost rank of London literary society, even in a record so immediate as this. It may be doubted whether any poet, even in the Augustan age of clubs and chocolate-houses, ever lived so much in the eye of the world of men and women as the Bunker-Bard of St. James's Place. He had pitched his tent there more than half-a-century ago. Ere that period, too, he had pronounced himself as a

"I learned * * that Mr. Rogers, author of 'The Pleasures of Memory,' that most sweet poem, had ridden round the lanes about our domain to view it, and stood—or made his horse stand—at our gate a considerable time, to examine our Camilla Cottage,—a name I am sorry to find

liberal, and the associate of liberals, in a manner which socially cost him dear:—as we are reminded by a curious entry from Dr. Burney's 'Memoirs.'

"May 1st, 1804.—I was at the Club, at which Rogers, put up by Courtney and seconded by me, was ballotted for, and blackballed:—I believe, on account of his politics. There can, indeed, be nothing else against him. He is a good poet,—has a refined taste in all the Arts,—has a select library of authors in most languages,—has very fine pictures,—very fine drawings,—and the finest collection ever saw of the best Etruscan vases,—and, moreover, he gives the best dinners, to the best company of men of talents and genius, of any man I know, and with the best wines, *liqueurs*, &c. He is not fond of talking politics, for he is no *Jacobin-écrivain*,—though I believe him to be a principled Republican, and therefore in high favour with Mr. Fox and his adherents. But he is never obtrusive; and neither shuns nor dislikes a man for being of a different political creed to himself; and, in fact, he is much esteemed by many persons belonging to the Government and about the Court. His books of prints of the greatest engravers, from the greatest masters, in history, architecture, and antiquities are of the first class. His house in St. James's Place, looking into the Green Park, is deliciously situated, and furnished with great taste. He seemed very desirous of being elected a member of the club." *

This ostracism, however, was soon annulled. Only a few years after the above amusing note was made, London saw that outburst of Liberalism in verse which gives one of its marking glories to the past half-century. That was a golden age for Whig society when Moore sang his own Irish Melody as no one else has ever sung them, to the delight of all the music lovers of London, and there was Moore's new political epigram, or satire, to chuckle over at Lord Holland's table, —when Byron beat Walter Scott's North Country ballad-romances out of the field by his Greek tales of crime and mystery,—and was not unwilling to allow friends or enemies in corners to add that last spice of interest to the "sweet new poem" which lay in ascribing its origin to some personal adventure. How, with Moore and Byron, Rogers, as the Amphitryon and *dilettante* and wit of St. James's Place, was perpetually mixed up and intimately conversant, the published Diaries and Memoirs of the two poets have already told. That such compact of unity meant no compact of mutual forbearance, when a poignant verse could be penned, or a sharp speech made, or a clever note written, is as little a secret. It must have been worth something "to have heard the chimes at midnight" with two such comrades as Byron and Moore. But when Byron left England, and Moore was out of London, there was "the Bard of Memory" from morning till midnight in public,—giving breakfasts, dining out, afterwards to be seen at the Ancient Concerts or the Opera, or at some of those gatherings which call themselves society in the small great-houses of Babylon. How nerves and thews and sinews could bear such a life of intellectual disport,—such a ceaseless flow of varying society as that in which the last fifty years of the life of Rogers passed,—seems marvellous: the wonder being doubled to all familiar—and who in London was not?—with his fragile appearance. Nor were society and entertainment by him taken easily. They implied perpetual effort, perpetual change, a perpetual call on the spirits. His was not a mere *coterie*, made up of a few old friends, among whom the hour could steal away without much excitement. The young poet or painter—the freshly-arrived American traveller—the new actress—the beauty of the season—were all to be found in his circle as they rose on the horizon, mixed up with old acquaintances and established reputation of the Holland-House set. The services and acts of kindness of Rogers to those whom his fancy adopted were many, munificent, and secret.—In his relations with artists and men of letters, however, it must be said his tastes were somewhat influenced by his sympathies. He must be commemorated as one of the first English connoisseurs who appreciated the serene and delicate sanctities of *Fra Beato*. He attached himself earnestly to the genius of Stothard, at a time when a more potent and more technically accomplished arbiter of taste—Sir George Beaumont—was unable to relish the works of the painter of 'The Canterbury Pilgrimage.' But as years wore on, his fastidiousness became somewhat wayward, and his predilections balanced by antipathies for which no reason could be given. His affection for music was greater than his knowledge of it. This

amounted to a gentle *dilettantism*, recalling that of Gray, writing canzonets to an air by Geminiani, to be sung by Miss Speed; and stopping short of the boldness, romance, and discovery which has marked the Art since Beethoven was in his prime. But till an accident confined him to his chair, Mr. Rogers continued to be an attendant at the Opera, the Ancient Concerts, and, when these died out, at the Exeter-Hall Oratorios. Till a very late period, he might be seen at midnight, feebly hurrying home from these on foot—no matter what the weather—thinly dressed, and as resentful of the slightest offer of attendance as was "the Duke" when he was scarcely able to mount his horse. The passion for pleasure did not forsake him till a very late period. Only a few years since, a street accident, caused by this imprudent manner of wandering home alone, sentenced him to a chair for the rest of his days.

A trait has still to be noted, without which no sketch of Rogers as a man of society, could be complete. Never was host less exclusive in forming his circle; and countless are the acts of substantial kindness which unknown and unfriended persons have occasion to associate with the memory of that breakfast-table in that shaded dining-room pleasantly described by Sydney Smith, as "a place of darkness where there shall be gnashing of teeth." Rogers took a tender and indulgent notice of children, rather singular in a wit and a bachelor. But, whether as balancing accounts against the myriad merciful courtesies which he did, or whether as involuntarily venting humours which could not be concealed,—the author of 'The Pleasures of Memory' was also known and noted for the indulgence of a "critical" spirit, sometimes passing the bounds of what is gracious in wit, and permissible in reply. He would conceive an antipathy to look or gesture in an inoffensive person, and pursue the party with an active dislike, which was curious in proportion as it was unreasonable. He was aware of his own propensity, owned it without misgiving, and accounted for it in a manner as ingenious as it was original. "When I was young," he has been heard to say, "I found that no one would listen to my civil speeches, because I had a very small voice:—so I began to say ill-natured things, and then people began to attend to me!" The habit grew with time, indulgence, and the considerate politeness of a younger generation, to an occasional excess of irritable severity,—of which, possibly, the wit of St. James's Place was unaware; but in sketching the figure of Rogers as a man long conversant with London society, the keenness of his tongue could be no more omitted or concealed than the extraordinary pallor of his complexion could be overlooked by the painter who professed to offer a record of his expressive, but peculiar head. This, by the way, has been done with striking exactness, though perhaps on too large a scale, by Mr. S. Laurence.

CARISBROOK CASTLE.

A report as to the formation of an Isle of Wight Museum at Carisbrook Castle, which we received from a Correspondent in Hampshire, and printed in the *Athenæum* some weeks ago, having brought down a sharp question from a gentleman well known in connexion with the Castle, we have made some inquiries in the best quarters on the subject, and are glad to be able to lay so satisfactory a statement before our readers as that contained in the following letter from Sir Charles Fellows, the Director of the new Museum.—

Cowes, Isle of Wight, Dec. 18.

Observing in the *Athenæum* a paragraph respecting a museum about to be formed in Carisbrook Castle, which gave an imperfect and incorrect report of the proposed Institution, and seeing other notices in the local papers equally erroneous, I feel called upon, having taken an active part in the proposed Museum, to address you on the subject.—For some years His Royal Highness Prince Albert has expressed a wish that a Museum for the products of the Isle of Wight should be formed in Carisbrook Castle. In June last a large collection of valuable Saxon antiquities were found in Chessel Down, and were sold away from the Island by

Mr. George Hillier. The loss of these historical documents of the Island, which I saw in the private collection of Lord Londesborough in London, induced me to write to His Royal Highness to know if such treasure could not be retained in the Island. The formation of a Museum for the purpose was at once most graciously entertained by Her Majesty and His Royal Highness. No sooner was this known than presentations were most liberally offered for this royal and public Museum. Capt. Ibbetson placed at my disposal his magnificent model of a portion of the Island, together with a valuable collection of illustrative fossils, the whole having cost him upwards of 5,000*£*, and the labour of more than five years during his residence in the Island; and the late Sir Henry De la Beche offered from the Jermyn Street Museum the duplicate fossils collected during the Ordnance survey of the Island. The Governor of the Isle of Wight has a residence provided for him within the Castle at Carisbrook; this building has not been occupied for many generations of governors, but is kept in repair by Her Majesty's Government. Lord Heytesbury, as Governor, has a life interest in this residence, but by a recent Act of Parliament no future Governor is to be appointed for the Isle of Wight. Her Majesty was graciously pleased to command Col. Phipps to apply for the use of rooms in the Governor's house for a "Royal Museum of the Products of the Isle of Wight," and Lord Heytesbury, last September, placed these rooms at my disposal. The object of the proposed Museum is to keep together in the Island the historical documents and specimens of the natural production of the Isle of Wight, and by their arrangement and exhibition in Carisbrook Castle, to influence and guide the researches of the traveller. The Museum is to contain no object unconnected with the Island. The Museum is to be accessible at all times that the Castle is open. Sir Roderick Murchison will take charge of the geological portion of the Museum and will supply from the Jermyn Street Institution maps, diagrams, and illustrations. The British Museum will supply copies of documents and casts of seals and antiquities in their possession, which illustrate the history of the Island, and I have offers from all quarters of specimens of local natural history. To protect these presentations, application has been made to the Office of Works for the necessary fittings; which I doubt not will be granted, as the whole collection will then become the property of the Government. It is further proposed that the administration of this Museum, when formed, shall be put in the hands of such persons as the Government may see fit to appoint. It is almost needless for me to observe, that Carisbrook Castle is visited by all tourists of the Island, and here they will be made aware of its points of interest and instruction. I therefore consider this boon will be accepted with gratitude by the public at large, even more than by the Islanders who form but a small portion of the visitors to the Castle.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES FELLOWS.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE book-buying power of England is every year increasing, as we see by the increasing sale of favourite works that are new, and by the advancing price of favourite books that are old. Mr. Dickens and Mr. Macaulay have more readers this Christmas than ever. Thirty-five thousand copies of the first number of 'Little Dorrit' have been sold; and there will soon be thirty-five thousand copies of the 'History of England' in the market. In the Preface to 'Bleak House,' Mr. Dickens told us that he had found more readers for that work than for any other in the long procession of his tales:—the circulation, we believe, was thirty-two thousand. 'Little Dorrit,' therefore, begins her story to an audience increased by three thousand purchasers. The first impression of Mr. Macaulay's former volumes consisted, we believe, of five thousand; the first impression of the volumes which we review to-day was twenty-five thousand. But the work is again in the press,—and ten thousand more copies will soon be ready. These issues will amount

almost to the full sale of the old volumes; the total sum of the many editions of these latter, including the unsold stock, being forty thousand copies. The history of the London book-trade offers no example of such sales in former times; except, perhaps, in the case of Byron, whose boast it was that thirty thousand copies of one of his poems were sold in one day.—Mr. Murray's sale last week offers further evidence of the vigorous and healthy state of the book trade. In spite of the depressing influence of the War, his new works found ready purchasers, as the following list of a few of the sales will show:—Mr. Grote's twelfth volume of 'The History of Greece,' 1,200—Dr. Liddell's 'Rome,' 800—Mr. Porter's 'Five Years in Damascus,' 600—Dean Milman's 'Latin Christianity,' 600—'Puss in Boots,' 2,000—'The Englishman in America,' 1,000—Mr. Ferguson's 'Handbook of Architecture,' 1,000.

Sir Roderick I. Murchison has been elected an Associate of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Brussels.

A paper 'On the Foreign Members of the Accademia della Crusca,' read by Herr Von Reumont to the Academy at Florence, gives us the short list of all the Englishmen who have belonged to this celebrated body. Among honorary literary distinctions, the title of "Socius dell' Accademia della Crusca" has at all times been one of the rarest. And in the days when it was thought that literature, like commerce and every thing else, could not flourish without "protection" and princely favour, no society of the sort took higher rank throughout Europe than that of Florence. In the 273 years of its existence it has enrolled but six of our countrymen. The first was John Price, a distinguished Grecian Professor at Pisa, named in 1651. Next come two diplomats,—Henry Newton, representative of Queen Anne at the Court of Tuscany in 1710, and George Nassau Clavering, Earl Cowper, holding the same position under George the Third in 1768. We then come to better-known names. Thomas James Mathias, whose principal title to literary distinction—the authorship of 'The Pursuits of Literature'—Herr Von Reumont ignores, became a Fellow in 1817, and William Roscoe in 1824. The sixth is our only present representative in the learned Florentine senate, George Warren, Lord Vernon, whose special claims to this honour have been the editing and publication of several ancient commentaries on the 'Divina Commedia.'

A pertinent question is raised by a Correspondent, who makes the following inquiry:—

Permit me to ask a question through the medium of your journal with respect to a very valuable portion of the Records of Ireland. I see in the papers a notice of the death of Mr. Ferguson, of the Exchequer Record Office, Dublin, whose antiquarian zeal is well known. It is stated, that "for the last three years he continued his guardianship of the Exchequer Records, although his circumstances were far from prosperous, without any salary"; and this accords with what I myself remember him to have told me a year or two ago, when, on a short visit I paid to Dublin, I made a few inquiries about the Records there. I have not forgotten the kindness and urbanity with which he received me on that occasion, nor the liberality with which he opened to me all the rich stores of which he had the custody. Doubtless, many of your readers can bear similar testimony. But may I ask, what is to be done now with those valuable Records? Is it anybody's business to look after them, or are they still considered not worth paying an officer to take charge of? Or, is it expected that some new enthusiast will be found to attend to what ought to be a national concern, without looking for fee or reward?—I am, &c., J. G.

In a sale of the books of Drs. Townsend and Gilly, the other day, at Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's, a few lots may be noted with a record of prices. A complete set of Valpy's *Delphin* and *Variorum Classics* brought 25/-, — a volume of *Bampton Lecture Sermons* (the set incomplete), 10/-, — twenty volumes of the English Historical Society's Publications, 8/- 7s. 6d., — *Bouquet's Recueil des Historiens de Gaule et de la France*, a complete set, 61/-, — *Recueil des Historiens des Croisades*, 5/- 7s. 6d., — and a book of Robert W. Billing's 'Illustrations of the Architectural Antiquities of the County of Durham,' 64 plates, with the artist's original drawings, 50/-.

Referring to another incomplete edition of Shakespeare, a Correspondent (G. A. P.) writes:— "Seeing what you have done in the matter of the 'Stratford Shakspere' I would call your

attention to the same circumstance happening to another edition of Shakspere's works, viz., 'The Companion Shakspere,' — the principal feature of which was the notes being printed in the margin instead of at the foot as usual. After taking in the parts, I found that no more were to be obtained, and, upon recently applying again, was referred to Messrs. Routledge, of Farringdon Street, who, upon my application, replied, that, when Mr. Knight completed the work, they would publish it. Is this work also in the press?"

On a similar grievance we have received the following:—

5, Sunny Bank Place, Leeds, Dec. 15.

Some time ago the Messrs. Black, of Edinburgh, advertised an edition of the *Waverley Novels* to be completed in volumes (cloth) at 2s. each. Of these volumes only five have yet made their appearance; and, although another has now been due for a considerable time, all inquiries of the booksellers respecting its forthcoming are fruitless. They know not, neither can they learn. From advertisements in several of the journals, I see that the Messrs. Black are giving prominence to another edition, quite distinct from the one I speak of, which is never mentioned at all. Hoping you will notice this, and do the public as much service as you have done in relation to the *Stratford Shakspere*.

I am, &c., JAS. ROB.

An Old Member of the Horticultural Society wishes to submit for consideration the question, — How far it might be advisable, instead of the three usual Exhibitions, to open the Gardens on the first and third Saturdays in each of the months from March to November for promenades, and in the fruit and flower seasons for the purchase of plates of the one and bouquets of the other on reasonable terms? "The Fellows," our Correspondent proposes, "to have free admission, strangers to be admitted by tickets at 1s. each." — We have no objection to place the hint at the service of those whom it may concern.

A set of photographs, taken by Mr. Robertson in the Crimea, are on view at Mr. Kilburn's Gallery, in Regent Street. The more interesting scenes are, interiors of the Redan and the Malakoff batteries, depicted with a startling fidelity. No pictures that we have seen convey so terrible an impression to the eye of those wondrous works, and of the many ingenious contrivances by which the Muscovites had made them tenable in the face of a fire so destructive as that which railed on the doomed city during the later bombardments.

The following notes on Historical Maps will interest many of our readers:—

"Athenæum Club, December.

"At page 1437 of the *Athenæum* there is a paragraph from a Correspondent on the want of historical maps. That such maps are most desirable it is unnecessary to argue,—how great may be the deficiency in this respect I am unable to determine. It may be, however, convenient to many of your readers to know that Perthes of Gotha, whose establishment is now under the direction of Dr. Petermann, has published the following:—Karl von Spruner: *Historische Geographischer Hand-Atlas—Geschichte der Staaten Europa's vom Anfange des Mittelalters bis auf die neueste Zeit*, folio—which will in part supply, I think, what your Correspondent suggests. That good cheap English map-manuals of this kind would be of great educational and general use is apparent; and perhaps attention could be drawn to the matter. As regards the 'Acquisitions of Russia,' we owe to Mr. Arrowsmith, of Soho Square, a very valuable map. It forms one of his 'London Atlases'; and from it I extract the following interesting notes.—

"Acquisitions of Russia from the Accession of Peter the First to the Throne."

"Population of the Russian empire, according to the best authorities, at different epochs:—At the accession of Peter the First, 1689, 15,000,000; of Catherine the Second, 1762, 25,000,000; at her death in 1796, 36,000,000; at the death of Alexander, 1825, 58,000,000.—1. The acquisitions of Russia from Sweden are greater than what remains of that kingdom.—2. Her acquisitions from Poland are nearly equal to the Austrian empire.—3. Her acquisitions from Turkey in Europe are of greater extent than the Prussian dominions, exclusive of the Rhineland provinces.—4. Her acquisitions from Turkey in Asia are nearly equal in dimensions to the whole of the smaller States of Germany.—5. Her acquisitions from Persia are equal in extent to England.—6. Her acquisitions in Tartary have an area not inferior to that of Turkey in Europe, Greece, Italy, and Spain.—7. The acquisitions she has made within the last sixty-four years are equal in extent and importance to the whole empire she had

in Europe before that time.—8. The Russian frontier has been advanced towards Berlin, Dresden, Munich, Vienna, Paris, about 700 miles; towards Constantinople, 500 miles; Stockholm, 630 miles; Teneran, 1,000 miles."

—In conclusion, let me add, that the history of the diplomacy of Russia, and of foreign States and England, as regards Russian encroachments upon Turkey, is a work much needed. It would, I think, be seen that the present war is the spawn of our own wrong,—and that the present generation are seeking to crush an evil, the party-spirit, neglect, and connivance of past Governments engendered.

"I remain, &c., SPENCER HALL, Librarian."

On Friday, last week, the first meeting of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society was held, very appropriately, in Crosby Hall—one of the true Middlesex antiquities. The Rev. Mr. Hugo presided, and certain rules were passed. The Marquis of Salisbury was accepted as patron of the Society, Lord Londesborough was elected President, and Mr. G. B. Webb Secretary. A wide field of usefulness opens before the new Society; and we shall be glad to hear of such energetic action as will deserve admiration and ensure success.

We print the following note from Dr. O'Connor, giving the Author of 'The Chronicles of Eri' the advantage of his criticism:—

In the last number of your journal [p. 1437], when noticing the work of the Rev. Richard Taylor—'Te Ika a Maui; or, New Zealand and its Inhabitants, &c.—you say, "Charles O'Connor, for instance, in his 'Chronicles of Eri,' attempted to prove a connexion between Irish and Hebrew," &c.,—from which you would lead your reader to infer that Charles O'Connor is the author of that work, which is for the most part, indeed three-fourths of it, one of fiction. 'The Chronicles of Eri' were written by Mr. Roger O'Connor, the father of the late Mr. Feargus O'Connor, the well-known Chartist leader. Charles O'Connor would, were he now alive, feel in no way honoured by having assigned to him the authorship of such imaginary rubbish as 'The Chronicles of Eri.'—I am, &c., WILLIAM O'CONNOR, M.D.

Upper Montagu Street, Montagu Square, Dec. 18.

Dr. Eduard Vehse, author of the historical compilation, 'Geschichte der deutschen Höfe,' has just been imprisoned at Berlin. It is thought that this event is owing to part of the contents of the last two volumes of his work (Vols. XXXVII. and XXXVIII.), treating of the Court of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. At least, these two volumes have been confiscated simultaneously with their author's imprisonment.

The genre of the German 'Dorfgeschichten' is spreading more and more. The Flemings have found their Auerbach. The 'Tales from the Campine,' by Dr. Snieders, of Turnhout, are praised highly by the Belgian and German papers. They are said to give a true and poetical picture of the peasant life of Flanders.

The anonymous writer of the German tragedy, 'The Gladiator of Ravenna' [ante, p. 116], has not been ascertained up to this moment,—a circumstance doubly curious, as the drama not only maintains its high popularity, but as the poet's shares in the profits of its various performances amount, it is said, to so large a sum as 10,000 thalers (1,500£.). This sum, deposited in the cash-boxes of the different Court theatres, waits the legitimate owner's disposal; but neither laurels nor gold, it appears, can induce the dramatist to step forth from his cloud. At all events, he must be a richer man than German poets generally are.

Prof. F. Ch. Schlosser, the historian of the eighteenth century, has just published a volume of 'Studies on Dante,' which creates, it appears, a sensation in Germany.

The corpse of the Polish poet Mickiewicz, we read in a correspondence of the 'Cologne Gazette,' will be embalmed, in order to be brought from Constantinople to Paris. The poet is to find his place of rest, in the cemetery of Montmorency, near the graves of his compatriots, General Kniaziewicz and Niemcewicz, the poet. The Poles at Paris have opened a subscription for the children of the poet (four boys and two girls), the results of which are most satisfactory. An amount of 60,000 francs was subscribed in the first few days, of which Count Xaver Branicki alone signed for the half. Mickiewicz was married to Celine Szymanoska, a daughter of the celebrated pianiste, Madame Marie Szymanoska. He survived his wife about nine months.

At Pesth a "monster subscription" has been

set on foot for the widow and children of the poet Vörösmarty, whose death we reported a few weeks ago [ante, p. 1402].

M. Capefigue has added a new volume to the great number of his historical compilations. It is entitled 'Histoire du Règne de Louis XVI.', and contains the negotiations with England and the United States, during the War of Independence, as also the Reports of the French Ambassadors at the Courts of St. James's, Vienna, St. Petersburg, and Constantinople, regarding the Oriental question.

At Florence a new series of the 'Archivo Storico Italiano' has been commenced. Some account of the first portion of this important historical collection has more than once been given in our columns [see *Athen.* Nos. 1121, 1396]. The new series is to be in several respects a publication of a different nature from its predecessor. But as it is like it, in being really no speculation with a view to profit, but a labour of love undertaken for the advancement of historical study, it deserves the support and is worth the attention of all who are interested in Italian history. It is to appear as a quarterly, of which each number will contain about 250 octavo pages, and will cost five francs. Two numbers have appeared; and, judging from the nature of their contents, the work seems intended to occupy ground which with us the historical printing Societies and the *Gentleman's Magazine* divide between them. Every number, the prospectus tells us, will consist of four portions:—1. Historical documents, unpublished, or which have become extremely rare. 2. Original memoirs and dissertations on subjects illustrative of, or connected with, Italian history. 3. Review of books, Italian or foreign, on analogous topics. 4. Obituary, correspondence, bibliographical notices, &c. The numbers published very satisfactorily keep the promises made; and though there is a little sweeping up of crumbs, that may seem trivial to readers accustomed to the overflowing abundance of a richer literature—such as notices of the little brochures which it is the custom, especially in northern Italy, to print on the occasion of a "marriage in high life,"—still there is a very fair four-shillings' worth of interesting and useful matter. Among the rest, for instance, we may notice an able review of Jaff's 'Re gesta Pontificum Romanorum,' by Achille Gennarelli, occupying nineteen closely printed pages, and an equally long and careful account of Mr. Dennistoun's 'Dukes of Urbino,' from the pen of Herr von Reumont.

FENTON'S 250 PHOTOGRAPHS taken in the CRIMEA, under the Patronage of Her Majesty, and with the Sanction of the Commanders-in-Chief.—The EXHIBITION of Mr. FENTON'S PHOTOGRAPHS IS REMOVED to the New after-dinner tables, 23, Pall Mall, next to the British Institution.—Daily, from Ten to Five, and in the Evening from Seven to Ten. Admission, One Shilling.

NEW EXHIBITION of CRIMEAN PHOTOGRAPHS, taken AFTER THE FALL of SEBASTOPOL, by ROBERTSON, of Constantinople, is NOW OPEN from Ten till Five daily, at Mr. KILBURN'S, Photographer to the Queen, 22, Regent Street, corner of Argyl Place.—Admission is with Catalogue.

ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITION and COLLECTION of PLATES and MANUFACTURES connected with BUILDING, PAINTING, and SCULPTURE, &c., &c.—Open from Nine till Dusk.—Admission One Shilling, or at all times, from Nine till Dusk.—First Lecture at Eight o'clock on Tuesday Evening, January 3, 'Ancient Assyrian Architecture,' by JAMES FERGUSON, Esq., F.R.A.S. Lists of Lectures, Tickets, and all particulars to be had at the Galleries.

MONT BLANC at CHRISTMAS.
Monday Morning, Dec. 24. Thursday Morning, Dec. 27.
Monday Evening, " 24. Thursday Evening, " 27.
Wednesday Morning, " 26. Friday Morning, " 28.
Wednesday Evening, " 26. Friday Evening, " 28.
Thursday Morning, Dec. 27.

Mr. ALBERT SMITH will give MONT BLANC, HOLLOW, UP THE RHINE, and PARIS at Three and Eight o'clock.

MR. GORDON CUMMING has the honour to announce that THE GREAT EXHIBITION will be held at THE IRON ENTERTAINMENT on the 29th. The subjects will be—1st. The Hunter's Troop of Sixteen Horses attacked by Five Lions, painted by Harrison Weir; 2nd, A View of the River Limpopo, with large Herd of Hippopotami, by Richard Leitch.—250 Pictures, &c., Children Half-Price; the Reserved Seats and Stalls, &c., All extra. Morning Entertainment at Three o'clock on Boxing-Day.

GREAT GLOBE, Leicester Square.—CHRISTMAS HOLLY-DAYS.—Sebastopol Model of the Siege of; Cronstadt, the Baltic, Seawoods, &c.; Lectures on Russia, the Crimea, and the War; Scenic Pictures, and Tropics captured from the Russians; Superb Pictures, all the Armies of Europe, &c., &c.; Models of the EARTH.—Admission to the whole Building, One Shilling; Children and Schools Half-price. Open from Ten A.M. to Ten P.M. Visited by 1,200,000 persons."

MILITARY GALLERY, GREAT GLOBE.—Splendid Collection of Paintings of the Armies of Europe. Great Globe, Leicester Square.—Admission to the whole Building, One Shilling; Children and Schools Half-price.

CRIMEAN MUSEUM, GREAT GLOBE.—A Collection of Pictures, Dresses, Arms, and Provisions, used by the Allied Forces. An enlarged Model of the Attack upon the Redan and Malakof. Great Globe, Leicester Square.—Open from Ten A.M. to Ten P.M. Admission, One Shilling, to the whole Building. Children and Schools Half-price.

SEVASTOPOL MODEL of the SIEGE and CAPTURE of, at the GREAT GLOBE, with the Positions of the Armies and the Baltic Forts. An enlarged Model of the Attack upon the Redan and Malakof. Great Globe, Leicester Square.—Open from Ten A.M. to Ten P.M. Admission to the whole Building, One Shilling; Children and Schools Half-price.

CRONSTADT.—GREAT GLOBE.—A large Model of Cronstadt, with the Forts and Batteries. SWEDISH and the BALTIc. Great Globe, Leicester Square.—Admission, One Shilling; Children and Schools Half-price.—Russian Infernal Machines, taken from before Cronstadt, explained every half-hour.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.—The Interior of Sebastopol after its Capture, and the Allied Fleets before Kinburn, have now added to the Diorama, "THE EVENTS OF THE WAR." The Lecture by Mr. Stoeckeler. Daily at Three and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s, 2s, and 3s; Children, Half-price.

DR. KAHN'S CELEBRATED ANATOMICAL MUSEUM (the rarity and completeness of whose contents have already acquired for it an European reputation, and obtained the warm commendations of the press, in this and other countries) is now OPEN DAILY.—New Sets of ornamental Specimens and Models, including some most important and curious features illustrative of the Wonders of the Human Structure, has just been added to the Collection, which now stands wholly unrivalled in the world. Medical practitioners and students, and the public at large, are invited to visit the Museum, and attend the Lecture at Eight o'clock. Lectures are delivered during the day, and are peculiarly interesting; one is delivered by Dr. Kahn, at half-past Eight o'clock every Evening.—Admission, One Shilling.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—The SECOND PART of the VOYAGES of SINBAD THE SAILOR, with new and beautiful DISSOLVING PICTURES, and Description, with SONGS, by G. L. HORNE, Esq. Laughable PHANTASIA AGORA, by G. L. HORNE, Esq. Models of some most interesting and curious features illustrative of the Wonders of the Human Structure, has just been added to the Collection, which now stands wholly unrivalled in the world. Medical practitioners and students, and the public at large, are invited to visit the Museum, and attend the Lecture at Eight o'clock. Lectures are delivered during the day, and are peculiarly interesting; one is delivered by Dr. Kahn, at half-past Eight o'clock every Evening.—Admission, One Shilling.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Dec. 12.—T. J. Pettigrew, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Three additional Associates were announced, making the election of forty-seven subscribing members during the year.—Mr. Clarke, of Easton, communicated the discovery of a Faciam unit of James the First, at Dinnington, in good preservation, and a halfpenny of Edward the First, of the London Mint, at Old Hall, Letheringham.—Mr. Barrow, of the Admiralty, exhibited an interesting mask in terra-cotta, found among the ruins of Babylon, in 1845, by Lieut. Fitzjames, R.N., one of the sufferers in the Expedition of Sir John Franklin. The features were singularly angular, and the eyelids much elongated. The image had been covered with a green vitreous substance, much of which still remains.—Mr. Bateman forwarded a list of Anglo-Saxon pennies, in his possession, obtained from the find at Carlisle in June last. Five of the moneyers of these specimens, nineteen in number, are not mentioned by Ruding. One of Athelstan, with a helmed head, is of great rarity. The coins do not appear to have been worn by circulation. The remainder of the discovery are dispersed in quarters where no particular information regarding them can be expected.—Mr. Shaw, of Andover, gave information regarding many coins of Tetricus Senior and Junior, and of Victorinus, recently found at Andover, tending to support the opinion of Stukely and others as to this place having been a Roman station; its occupation by the Romans is, at least, clearly established. Within two miles of Andover Mr. Shaw states an extremely rare Saxon penny of Borechtice to have been found last summer;—and, with the exception of one in the Hunterian Collection at Glasgow, is the only example known. Its weight was twenty-four grains. Mr. Shaw also stated that he had recently seen some old documents of the borough of Andover, on which were the borough arms, with the motto "Helps nowe and ever." This motto has disappeared, nor is it known as belonging to Andover. It would be interesting to learn when it ceased to be used.—Mr. H. Syer Cuming read a paper 'On the Mazer,' in which he gave a history of the different known examples.—A portion of Mr. F. J. Baigent's paper 'On the Lymaston Family, and the establishment of the Ticeborne Dole,' which time would

not permit of being read at the Congress in the Isle of Wight, was read; and the remainder of the evening was occupied in the reading of the second portion of Sir Gardner Wilkinson's paper 'On Etruscan Tombs.'

STATISTICAL.—Dec. 17.—Col. Sykes, V.P., in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows, viz.:—Hon. H. B. W. Brand, M.P., Drs. Arnott and Strang, Messrs. A. H. Bailey, W. Dawbarn, R. Monckton Milnes, M.P., W. Pare, J. R. Sowray, J. Stott, J. H. Woolley, and J. W. Weldon. Dr. F. T. Berg (Stockholm) and M. Maurice Bloch (Paris) were elected Foreign Honorary Members.—Dr. Guy read a paper 'On the Nature and Extent of the Benefits conferred by Hospitals on the Working Classes and the Poor.' The author commenced by stating that there were one or two points concerning hospitals, upon which our information was so scanty as to cause great difference of opinion among persons conversant with the management of hospitals. Two questions, especially, had not been solved. The first was the class of persons who resort to hospitals; the second was the proportion which that class forms of the population. Many persons were probably in ignorance of the extent to which men in the receipt of good wages were in the habit of applying to hospitals for medical aid. The chief object of this paper was to ascertain the proportion which working men so circumstanced bore to the really poor, and the proportion which the two classes together bore to the entire population. As the records of hospitals and dispensaries are not kept in a strictly accurate manner, especially with respect to out-patients, it was necessary for Dr. Guy to confine his inquiries to one particular hospital, such as King's College Hospital, which, from its establishment, had always kept a strict record of its patients, in a form peculiarly adapted to such an inquiry as the present. After describing the district in which King's College Hospital is situated, and the management of the Hospital, the author proceeded to show, by means of tables, that the districts bordering on King's College Hospital, though not the poorest in London, are much poorer than the districts at the west end of the town, and were also very densely peopled. The paper then entered into some details respecting the district from which the Hospital draws its principal supply of patients; it defined its boundaries, and mentioned the parishes and unions of which it was comprised. The population of these parishes and districts was roughly estimated at from 80,000 to 100,000. The district contained only one Dispensary (the Public Dispensary in Carey Street), but two others, one of which was for children, were situated on its borders. The author then mentioned that it was a free hospital, described the arrangements made for visiting out-patients and receiving in-patients, and stated that the hospital was placed under very favourable circumstances for testing the extent to which the labouring classes and the poor availed themselves of hospital accommodation when the impediments to their attendance are reduced almost to a minimum. No arrangements are made for visiting patients at their own homes,—that duty being performed by the officers of the Dispensary in Carey Street.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Dec. 19.—J. Glynn, Esq., in the chair.—'On the Present Position of the Iron Industry of Great Britain, with Reference to that of other Countries.' Part I., by Mr. J. Kenyon Blackwell.—In this section of his paper, the author took a general view of the mineral resources of those countries which are the principal seats of the production of iron. In the second part, which has been announced for reading on the 9th of January, he proposes to examine the nature of the various processes followed in this manufacture, and to inquire how far they appear to be susceptible of improvement; and, lastly, to give some account of the evidences of progress in this branch of industry abroad, as compared with this country, derived from the specimens exhibited at the Paris Exhibition.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- WED. Microscopical, 8
THURS. Numismatic, 7
— Royal Institution, 3.—"On the Common Metals" (adapted to a Juvenile Auditory), by Prof. Faraday.
SAT. Royal Institution, 3.—"On the Common Metals" (adapted to a Juvenile Auditory), by Prof. Faraday.

FINE ARTS

Handbook of the Arts of the Middle Ages and Renaissance, as applied to the Decoration of Furniture, Arms, Jewels, &c. Translated from the French of M. Jules Labarte. With Notes, &c. Copiously Illustrated. Murray.

THE excellent manual of Jules Labarte, from which the volume before us is a translation, has long been in the hands of collectors and persons interested in mediæval antiquities. In its present handsome form and fluent language it will doubtless render much service towards increasing the study of the Middle Ages, and induce many to find both art and beauties in works hitherto deemed insignificantly small or barbarous from their quaintness and worn condition. The 204 woodcuts that adorn the volume are minutely explained in a prefatory "description of the woodcuts." As a "Handbook," Mr. Murray's version is too ponderous, being uniform in size and bulk with Martyn's "Pottery and Porcelain." There is also a great inequality in the illustrations, which may be accounted for in some measure by the numerous contributions from various sources acknowledged by the translator in his Preface. M. Labarte designed that part of his book, which is now before us in an English dress, merely as an introduction to the catalogue of his own collection. The second portion, however, has been very judiciously omitted by the translator. Many parts of the text have been amplified, and the number of notes greatly increased; but it is to be regretted that some distinction, by signature or initials, has not been adopted with regard to the notes and additions to the text. Mrs. Palliser, whose name as translator has appeared in the advertisements, although not in the volume itself, has in some places omitted notes of the original, but has considerably amplified them in others. The substitutions, as in the note upon the Greek action of blessing, are not always so good as the clear and simple explanation of the original. There are evidences of haste throughout the whole work, both in description and printing. In the list of Illustrations, which was evidently drawn up latest, since it corrects the false numbering of several illustrations in the text, we still have two pieces of Sculpture of the same series, from Selsey Church, now in Chichester Cathedral, differently lettered. The one is stated to be of the tenth or eleventh century, the other of the ninth or tenth. Silver vases are described as found near Mount Esquinal at Rome. The Pompeian vase of blue and white glass, given in a small woodcut about an inch and a half high, is described as "size of original," whilst the original is really more than a foot high and a foot and a half in circumference. The substitution of ΘΕΣ for ΙΗΣ may appear a small printer's blunder, but it becomes serious when explanations depend upon it. These three letters, we are told, in the same line, stand for Ιησοῦς. Several notes might have been advantageously supplied to extend the information of the original upon examples of Mediæval Art in our own country. Many of these would be naturally unknown to M. Labarte, and it is only at the present time that we ourselves are beginning to be better acquainted with them. No allusion is made in the additional notes to the magnificent windows of King's College Chapel at Cambridge, although the subject of glass-painting occupies so large a share of attention. The department given to pictures might almost have been dispensed with, inasmuch as the differences of style are not sufficiently manifested in the minute illustrations selected from Kugler, and the omission might have been supplied with a chapter on Monumental Brasses, so important and popular a branch of the Arts of the Middle Ages, and especially in our own country. The incised alabaster slabs, more frequently used abroad, would have fairly led to this.

Monumental Brasses, which are only *nielli* on a large scale, would find a ready place in connexion with the chapter on Engraving, and afford by their variety of canopy and costume no small amount of entertainment and information. The manner in which sword-handles of one period are spread over the book is very singular.

A crozier of Israel von Meckenem is separated from the crozier of William of Wykeham, as the former is required to illustrate an engraving, although the artist's name does not occur in the text, and the woodcut introduced cannot be regarded as a fac-simile of Meckenem's celebrated engraving. An arrangement of this kind cannot fail to bewilder the uninitiated, and must lose its utility for the more advanced, by the want of system and classification. Under the heading "Decoration of MSS. by the Romans," we have a painted saddle of the sixteenth century, and no allusion to the Romans; indeed, many of the cuts seem to have been dragged in without being called for. In the notice of the Van Eycks and their connexion with oil painting, we look in vain for the authorities cited by Sir Charles Eastlake, and indeed a reference to his valuable book on the subject is left out altogether from the notes. In looking through the text we miss engravings of several familiar objects which, although common, merit introduction, not only for the sake of comparison, but are fairly to be expected in a copiously illustrated work, as this professes to be. The Cellini salt-cellar, the Alfred jewel, the Lynn cup, the golden altar of St. Ambrose at Milan, the chasuble of Becket, at Sens, the pax of Finiguerra, Michael Angelo's ring, bronze gates both Byzantine and Florentine, reliquaries and altar-pieces are really due. Jewelled and carved book-covers, so numerous as they are, claim also some pictorial attention. In the rich subject of ancient armour we have no illustration before the fourteenth century, except a reference to the Bayeux Tapestry, which appears in another part of the book. The fifteenth century of armour also passes by without enrichment. The endless variety of patterns and devices of keys and ivory combs is dismissed without a single pictorial illustration. Those who look to the pages treating of carved wood furniture of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries will find text only, so that "poverty" is often suggested instead of copiousness. The "Art Céramique," germanized by the translator into "Keramic Art," forms a most instructive chapter. Indeed, the anecdotes and references contained in the volume are in the highest degree interesting and well condensed. A large space is justly given to enamels. M. de Laborde defines this subject pitifully, "L'émaile est un cristal." The English commencement of Chapter V. of the book before us is neither so concise nor so satisfactory: "The name of enamel has been given to substances of a vitreous nature, variously covered by metallic oxides." On turning to the original, however, we find a considerable difference. We read instead "diversement colorées par des oxydes métalliques." The word repeatedly translated "table," in the description of the process of glass-painting means, as in all Latin descriptions, and in the old English also, simply a smooth surface of board or plank corresponding to the word *tabula*, as used by the Italians. That the surface to be drawn on was not a mere horizontal table, in our sense of the word, is tolerably evident from the fact that the designer could not in such a position have seen the effect of his work; at the same time, the tabula may have been laid down whilst the workman was adjusting the glasses on it.

"On a wooden table which had previously been whitened with pulverized chalk and sprinkled with water, the artist first marked with a rule and compass the exact size of the window or pane of the window to be composed. This done, he sketched out with lead or tin, and afterwards with a red or black colour, the subject to be represented upon the glass, together with the borders and other ornaments with which it was to be decorated, marking out the shadows with hatches, such as afterwards would be expressed by the bistre enamel. He then noted down the colour of each part of the composition, either by colour applied upon the table in the different compartments which formed the design, or by a conventional letter which referred to a given colour. The artist, from these memoranda, then took as many pieces of coloured glass as there were different compartments in the design; and placing these

pieces of glass, one after the other, on the spaces they were to fill, he traced upon them with chalk ground in water, the outlines of the design he saw, through the glass, upon the table."

In the Westminster accounts, still preserved, of the works at St. Stephen's Chapel, we find minute records of the glass-painters' wages during the reign of Edward the Third. From these entries the process by which the "glaziers" worked may be curiously inferred. Thus, by pursuing one man's name, Master John de Chester, through the crowd of names, we find him, June 20, "working on the drawing of several images for the glass windows of the King's Chapel." Evidently his sketches. Meanwhile, a workman had been "washing the tables for drawing on the glass"; after which Chester began, June 27, "working on the drawing of the said tables." These were his cartoons. Lastly, we find, July 18, the master "working on the glass of the windows"—this continued a long while; and on August 15 he began some fresh sketches.

The chapter on Painted Windows is very interesting; the too often confused terms of stained and painted glass are well distinguished.—

"In fact, there is a great difference between colouring glass and painting upon it. The coloured glasses are obtained by mixing metallic oxides with glass in a state of fusion, by which means a uniform colour is given to the whole mass. This colouring is not superficial, it pervades the substance of the glass, the colouring matters becoming incorporated by fusion with the vitreous mass. This process produces what is called stained glass, which must not be confounded with painted glass. To obtain the latter the artist makes use of a plate of translucent glass, either colourless or already tinted in the mass, and gives the design and colouring with vitrifiable colours upon one or both surfaces. These colours, true enamels, are the product of metallic oxides which give the coloration, combined with vitreous compounds known by the name of fluxes. These fluxes serve as vehicles for the colours, and it is through their medium, assisted by the action of a strong heat, that the colouring matters are fixed upon the plate of glass and incorporated with it."

Respecting the period of the commencement of painted windows we read:—

"Ought we not rather suppose that this admirable invention can only have been produced at a time of revival; at a period when men, recovered from the agitations of the Xth century, and being no longer overpowered by that dread of the approaching end of the world which had paralysed all activity, were vigorously starting into new life; at a period when men of all conditions began to vie with each other in exertions to restore and embellish the ecclesiastical edifices; at a period, in short, when art opened for herself new paths, created a new style, and strove to exhibit to the world organised productions, entirely distinct from those that had hitherto appeared? Moreover, it is a fact, acknowledged by all archaeologists, that we do not know now any painted glass to which can be assigned with certainty an earlier date than that of the Xth century."

And yet it seems strange that patterning and figures upon the glass itself should not have been employed previously. The Roman medallions with painted portraits on glass, the beautiful gold decorations and figure subjects upon the early Christian glass-vessels and medallions found in the Catacombs, would naturally have suggested their application to windows of the same material, and pertaining to the offices of the same faith. Some Roman portraits on glass exist in the British Museum, and the effect of the beautiful ornamented transparent glass may be seen in M. Perret's magnificent work on the Christian Catacombs of Rome. Buonarotti transcribes the patterns in his well-known work, but is deficient in other respects.

Here is a curious extract:—

"Vair, the skin of the gray squirrel (petit-gris) was the fur held in the XIVth century next in estimation to ermine. It was so called from its variety of colour, the back of the squirrel being gray, the underneath parts of its body white. Cinderella's slipper was of this fur, a 'pantoufle de vair,' which being wrongly written, 'verre,' gave rise to the rendering of a glass slipper."

A very interesting chapter on glass-making describes the various kinds of Venetian and German manufacture. The processes of making the Venetian cane and filagree, the millefiori and German enamel, are all revealed; but it must suffice for us to refer the reader to the book itself. Scarcely any department of furniture, utensils, or ornament has been neglected in the text. In so universal a scheme deficiencies cannot at once be avoided, but the labours of Messrs. Albert Way, Franks, and Digby Wyatt have gone far to remove such difficulties,—and a careful series of notes upon English specimens, with a few more direct illustrations to the text, will render the work an indispensable compendium in every gentleman's library.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Waiting for the Deer to Rise. Painted by Sir E. Landseer; Engraved by H. T. Ryall. Gambart & Co.

THIS is an excellent engraving of an excellent picture: and done on a scale which, for the first time, brings out all the wild poetry of the scene. It gives an impression of a richer colour than the original possesses, and is broad and grand in its manner of execution. The broad slabs of rock in the foreground, over which the dry stalky heather hangs, are as rough and granular as nature; while, in other parts, the engraver's touch is as slight and tender as it needs be. The subject of this picture is almost too well known to need description. It represents three Highlanders and two stag-hounds crouching under the brow of a low hill, waiting for the deer to rise. Soon the fire and lead will fly after him; and if they fail, there are the two hot-toothed dogs to tear his flank and hold him till the man with the wooden-knife comes up and lets out the wild blood. Nothing can be more natural, unrestrained, and yet inimitable than the face of the old fellow who is holding up the branch of heather to hide it. His cold, grey eye is all astrain, his grey shaggy eyebrows are in motion, about his mouth there is a look of caution and anxiety, almost amounting to triumph. His companions are intent upon the dogs,—one is turning to check Bran's impatience, and another is staring fiercely at vacancy, and tugging at Luath's chain. All that is visible in the picture indicates the stag, which is invisible. A minute more, and the stag will snuff mischief,—stand upon his legs,—smell the wind,—and fly over the bracken. Then a jet of fire will pass, swift as lightning, to blast him,—thick red drops will press out of his flesh, and hang like dew clogging his dun hair,—in a moment the sharp teeth will cling to his throat,—the knife gashes out his life,—and in half-an-hour he is hanging at a gillie's back,—being trotted over moor and bog,—to be thrown down to the nearest bothie, where the whiskey perfume scents the smoky air, and the boys are shouting and counting the tines on the bloody antlers. All is well marked by the painter. Every local touch that gives truth is remembered:—the paternal look of admonition and reproach that a man gives to a faithful but unruly dog,—the strained eye of the hound,—the intense delight and anxiety of the man,—the rainy, dull sky,—the broad, sloping hills,—the flashing burn's silvery gleam running through the grey moorland. The drawing is not very subtle; the men's feet are coarse and unvaried, and the composition is little studied; but these are minor points.

Scene on the River Tavy. From a Sketch by J. Will. Turner. Chromo-lithographed by Hanhart, Gambart & Co.

DISCOVERIES do not proceed at once to perfection, nor do they even progress, as life does, without stops or restings. Chromo-lithography has reached a sticking-place, and does not at present move either backwards or forwards. Turner is a bad master to choose for such experiments as this in colour:—machinery will not stay to study his subtleties and wonderful details. Clever and pleasing as this sketch is, it is washy in parts, and vague and powerless in the foreground, where it should be made out and powerful. Distance is better given than usual; but there is much still wanting before perfect Art is reached. Mere effect it conveys,—broad reaches and scuds of colour it presents very fairly to the eye; but when it comes to faint suffusions, half shading deeper tones, to sunny dashes and deep brightness, it completely fails. It cannot give that grey, opaque lustre that lights the pearl, or the living light that burns in the rose.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—Mr. Gibson's statue of the Queen—which arrived in England from Rome a few weeks ago—is now uncased and set up, so that an opinion may be formed as to its merit as a work of Art, and its adaptability to the site for which it is meant. The statue is colossal, and belongs to the school which affects heroic forms, and therefore challenges comparison with heroic standards. As

a likeness of the Queen, the statue is a failure: the figure is too plump, the pose too theatrical, the face too large and heavy. The nose is especially unlike nature; and the lineaments of the Royal Lady resemble those of some imaginary portrait of a fabulous queen,—creature of a sculptor's fancy,—rather than recall the lines of that face which we all know so well. But, apart from mere want of resemblance to the original,—a grave defect, we must insist, since these national monuments are to be a part of our historic record, witnessing to future generations of the men and women of our time,—the statue has a certain grandeur of outline, a certain massiveness of conception, which bespeak the hand of the accomplished artist. The Majesty of England seems to sit before the spectator,—calm, grand, inflexible,—but with the soft serenity that belongs of right to those abstractions which take the feminine aspect as the typical representative. Such, at least, is the impression it produces on the mind now, while it stands apart from gilding and colour, from brass-work and mosaics, in the dingy shed of the stone-mason.

A question, often raised in connexion with the doings of the Fine-Art Commission at Westminster, must be again discussed when Mr. Gibson's statue is ready for its place. That place, we venture to say, is one of the very worst in the Palace; and to set it up in the spot now marked for it in the programme will be to violate every principle of sound taste, and to do serious injury to the ideas of the architect, Sir Charles Barry. It is meant to fix this colossal statue in a very beautiful but very small apartment—the Queen's Robing-Room,—immediately behind the throne. As every one will understand, the effect will be ludicrous as regards the proportions between the living woman and the marble figure thus brought close together on all those State occasions which draw such crowds to the Royal Gallery. But the worst consequence—because permanent, and visible at all times,—is, that the statue will dwarf all the proportions of the room, and kill the slight and delicate carvings which adorn it. The truth is, the statue is best adapted for the centre of a large court or for the recess of a vast hall. Our Art authorities seem to have a genius for putting the right thing in the wrong place. They have put heroic statues (instead of life size) in the Hall of St. Stephen's;—and we shall find out this mistake as soon as the frescoes are commenced on the empty walls between the figures. The frescoes will suffer from the gigantic size of the statues; and Sir Charles Barry's beautiful proportions will be damaged to the eye by this confusion of the principles which ought to regulate the subordination of parts to a grand general effect. Nor does the mischief end in the corridors and the Robing-Room. In almost every part of this splendid edifice—which, for good and evil, has been chosen as the witness to succeeding times of the architectural and artistic genius of the nineteenth century—we hear of similar proposals. They wish to put colossal figures under that magnificent arch of the Victoria Tower which we consider the crown of Sir Charles Barry's genius. We sincerely hope they will not persevere in this desire. Four slender lamps, in character with the lofty shafts, which will serve a useful purpose without breaking the simple symmetry of the design, would be all that is needed to round off this majestic entrance to the finest legislative palace in the world.

Mr. Rogers has bequeathed three of his pictures to the National Gallery—the beautiful Titian, 'Noli me Tangere'; the small Giorgione of a standing knight in armour, and the Head of Our Saviour crowned with thorns, by Guido, well known through Sharpe's exquisite engraving. All the other pictures, including those also which had belonged to his sister, books, prints, and drawings will be dispersed by the hammer of the auctioneer.

Old Hurbeck Castle, in Merionethshire, the scene of many historical events, is being repaired by Government. The old fortresses in Wales are one by one being looked after. Better late than never, for Time and Cromwell together had been nearly too much for them.

Modern sculptors cannot please the good people

of Leeds. They have paid Mr. Milnes 20*l.* for his model of a statue for Mr. E. Baines, and dismissed him from competition. Mr. Behnes and Mr. Noble are to try again, and a final decision is to be come to in February.

Great fears have been entertained within the week that M. Delaroche's 'Hémicycle,' in the Ecole des Beaux Arts at Paris—one of the most remarkable of modern paintings—had been irretrievably injured by a fire which broke out in the building as it was being decorated for the annual distribution of prizes. Ere the fire could be subdued, a large portion of the picture was subjected to its influence; and the first accounts were disastrous indeed. M. Fould, however, on distributing the prizes in the chapel, which had to be provisionally used instead of the hall, announced that the picture had not suffered the injuries which were at first imagined to have befallen it.

On Tuesday evening the Architectural Exhibition was opened in Suffolk Street, with a *conversazione*. The rooms were judiciously lighted, and the presence of ladies gave a brilliant effect to the scene. In the course of the evening Prof. Cockrell and other gentlemen addressed the assembly in a few words, to congratulate the members and company on the increased support and resources of the Exhibition. Assemblages of this kind will do more to popularize this important branch of Art than all the architectural treatises that have been published during the last 150 years. Instead of mere architectural "elevations" and working drawings which so few understand, the chief feature of the present Exhibition consists in views of actual places and buildings at home and abroad,—real specimens of the effect of Architecture under the natural laws of distance and perspective. Many an architectural pile, notwithstanding, may be seen on the walls, drawn with all the formalities of the T-square, which, of course, are less universally interesting; but among them, we are ready to admit, there are many of great excellence, both for execution and design. Such works are of immediate importance to the profession, and a more extensive system of intercourse may be advantageous to its members. Nor is the field restricted to modern drawings,—several old views having been contributed. Fresco paintings and painted glass appear also in accordance with their relation to Architecture; and the sphere is greatly enlarged by a beautiful variety of brass-work, brackets, and candelabra, iron ornamental hinges, wood-carvings, pulpits, fireplaces, stoves, lamp-reflectors, &c. This department reminds the visitor of the Medieval Court of 1851. Numerous photographs, models, and engravings lay on the tables, and a few specimens of illustrated works, by Messrs. Fergusson and Street, were tastefully arranged in frames. The visionary drawings of M. Horace, and stained glass from St. Albert, executed by the nuns, merit especial notice as foreign contributions. Several drawings, by the late Mr. Carpenter, are distinguished by breadth and effect of space. Foreign architecture, both ancient and modern, are admirably illustrated by the sketches of the Rev. J. L. Petit, and Messrs. Digby Wyatt, Boucher, Deane, and Aitchison. Messrs. Cockrell and Donaldson and Sir Charles Barry contribute nothing; and we miss also the presence of Mr. Falkener, whose pencil has been so actively employed abroad in the picturesque and antiquarian departments of his profession. The lectures that have been already announced will, it is to be hoped, serve to strengthen that which seems to have begun so well.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MADAME JENNY GOLDSCHMIDT-LIND.—EXETER HALL—ON THURSDAY EVENING NEXT, December 27, Haydn's Oratorio of THE CREATION will be represented by the Chorus and Orchestra of Goldschmidt-Lind, Mr. Lockyer, and Mr. Lawler. Handel's Gratzoria of THE MESSIAH will be produced on MONDAY EVENING, December 31, in which Madame Goldschmidt will sing the principal Soprano part. The Chorus and Orchestra will consist of more than 600 Performers—Conductor, Mr. Brinsford—Chorus, 10*s.*; Orchestra, 1*o.*—Admission, 1*o.* 6*d.*; One Guinea; Unreserved Seats (Body of the Hall), 7*d.*; West Gallery, 1*o.* 6*d.*; Area (under West Gallery), 7*d.* Doors open at Seven, to commence at Eight o'clock precisely. Correct Books of the Oratorios are given with the Tickets. Application for Tickets to be had at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 32 Old Bond Street.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—ON FRIDAY, January 4, Haydn's CREATION. Vocalists: Madame Clara Novello, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Thomas. The Orchestra will consist of nearly 700 Performers.—Tickets, 3*s*; Reserved, 5*s*; Central Area, Numbered Seats, 10*s* ed. each; at the Society's Office, 6*s*, in Exeter Hall.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Six Four-Part Songs, with a Pianoforte Accompaniment ad libitum. By Mrs. Mounsey Bartholomew. Op. 30. (Ewer & Co.)—We have here half-a-dozen clever compositions, written in the German rather than the English fashion. Smartness and spirit have been more tried for than suavity. In her laudable desire to avoid the sickliness of the bad English glee, the authoress has somewhat monotonously adopted a style diametrically opposite. It lies in the school which Mrs. Bartholomew has adopted to disregard the sonority of the voices in the quartett,—and we need but instance the *soprano* part of 'The Bee,' No. 4, which, with the exception of one or two notes towards the close, lies almost in the *contralto* register. Dullness of effect must necessarily result, especially when the part-song is given by a mass of voices.

Original Irish Songs. Words by Thomas Moore; with Accompaniment for Pianoforte, Violin, and Violoncello, by Louis von Beethoven. First Original Edition. (Vienna, Artaria; London, Schermann.)—What does "first original edition" mean? Is it professed that these arrangements were made by Beethoven to Moore's words on the Irish Melodies, published by Moore with Stevenson's symphonies and accompaniments? We can hardly fancy this to be the case,—and we imagine that a writer in the *Daily News* must be correct, who states that these are arrangements of Irish melodies, commissioned for a collection made in Scotland, which fell still-born from the press owing to the superior interest attracted by Moore's publication; now re-issued (or, possibly, published for the first time) with Moore's words fitted to them. The conditions under which they were executed, and those under which they appear (supposing such statement correct) are widely different. We imagine Beethoven to have been too careful a worker, even when working for the music-shops, not to be more or less attentive to the text of the songs which he undertook to dress up. Leaving this matter, however, to be sifted by those whom it more closely concerns, we find the first number of these decked melodies full of interest. The symphonies are all charming; some of the accompaniments are curious, because founded on a reading of the melodies to which we have not been used. Observe the *musette* effect imparted to the song 'Through grief and through danger,' by the sustained notes for the stringed instruments giving the voice the task of singing below a protracted B flat in *alto* on the violin! Observe, again, in the melody 'Avenging and bright' the character of the *cantilena*, which, though acknowledged by the imitations in the *violin* and *violoncello* accompaniments (moving always in imitation), is contradicted by the more petulant and poignant *pizzicato* of the *pianoforte*. As a *nocturno* for four instruments this movement may be charming,—as a song we cannot imagine it effective.

We may group together in one paragraph the following vocal compositions.—*Three Songs*, by J. Hallett Shepherd (Cramer & Co.), are more carefully finished than the average of such compositions — *Three German Songs*, by Rückert, Gruppe, and Uhland, by Francesco Berger, Op. 12 (Wessel & Co.), can only be characterized as three among the thousand.—‘*Stars of the Summer Night*’ and ‘*Resignation*’, by E. Silas (Cramer & Co.), show this young composer, as usual, assiduous rather than original,—less happy in what he writes for the voice than in his instrumental compositions.—*The Wood Nymph*, by W. Vincent Wallace,—*The Gipsy Ballad*, by Venzano,—‘*Yes, thou fair and tender blossom*’, from ‘Il Trovatore’,—‘*Will she speak to me no more*’, ‘*Though lost to sight*’, ‘*Do what is right*’, by G. Linley,—‘*Yes, Music has a charm for me*’, by W. Prout (Cramer & Co.),—‘*Life’s Early Friends*’, by G. Linley,—‘*If I’d a fairy’s power*’, by R. F. Lowell (Emery),—*England’s Welcome to Sardinia’s King*, by Manns (Scheurmann &

Co.), are sufficiently reviewed by the above transcript of their titles.

MADAME GOLDSCHMIDT'S CONCERTS.—‘*Elijah*.’

—The soprano part in ‘Elijah,’ obviously written for Madame Goldschmidt’s voice, suits her, to our thinking, better than the soprano part in ‘The Creation,’ though it does not call out her executive brilliancy. There is a massiveness of style—a grace, possibly implying more real beauty than slighter gracefulness—in Mendelssohn’s music, for the rendering of which Madame Goldschmidt is, in many respects, perfectly fitted. Her leading of the ‘Sanctus’ of angels in the second part is the most remarkable display made by a soprano in our recollection,—alike for splendour of voice and dignity of delivery. We may not look to hear a piece of music so difficult, albeit so simple, ever again so surpassingly executed: and it is the culminating point of our noblest modern oratorio.—Madame Goldschmidt was excellently supported by Miss Dolby. The *Elijah* was Mr. Hamilton Braham,—a gentleman as yet unequal to such high occupation,—who tried here and there to make an effect, but was so little at home in ‘Elijah’ as to sing words of his own in place of those on the page before him. When shall we hear this finest of bass parts sung with sufficient power and due reverence? It is hard to conceive how any one can sit in an orchestra beside so consummate an artist as Madame Goldschmidt, and be contented to do less than his best. Implying many things which are damaging to Art, progresses like the Swedish Lady’s should at least be profitable to the artist, by furnishing him with incentives to ambition, and by showing him what excellence is possible and what honours attend such excellence.—Exeter Hall was thoroughly filled by an audience cordial and judicious in its applause.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—We observe that Mr. Smith, the lessee of Drury Lane Theatre, is advertising for subscribers to an Opera season, to commence at Easter,—with a view, so far as we understand his prospectus, of suiting the scale of his engagements to his prospects of support. Mr. Beverly is announced as the scene-painter retained. These are the 'Messiah' weeks, —Handel's "Sacred Oratorio" having been, as usual, performed at *St. Martin's Hall* on Monday, and at *Exeter Hall*, by the *Sacred Harmonic Society*, yesterday evening. In both cases the soprano was Madame Novello, the tenor Mr. Lockey, and the bass Mr. Thomas.—At the second concert of the *Amateur Society* on Monday, the Lady who signs her compositions "Angelina," performed Mr. W. S. Bennett's *Pianoforte Concerto* in F minor: —and a Madrigal party made its appearance with great applause.—*Miss Dolby's* second *Soiree* was held on Thursday, for which evening, also, the last chamber concert of the *Society of British Musicians* was fixed.

Signor Sivori has arrived in England.

Signor Sivori has arrived in England.
'Fiorina', a new *opera buffa* by Maestro Pedrotti, has been produced at the Italian Opera of Paris. The Correspondent of the *Morning Post* credits the composer with "original and sparkling melodies."—The report in the *Gazette Musicale* is less favourable. Signor Pedrotti is therein debited largely with borrowings from Donizetti and Signor Verdi; and a charming quartett is described as spoiled by exaggerations in the instrumentation. The *finale* (a *rondo* for the *prima donna*, Madame Penco) is a waltz, apparently full of those abrupt and instrumental difficulties which the Italian *mæstri* (poor patriots in this!) seem to have borrowed from the waltz composers of Austria. Signor Pedrotti, continues the critic of the *Gazette*, has the material for a more real success than he gained the other evening on the first representation of '*Fiorina*.' Yet, never did Rossini, Bellini, Donizetti, Verdi, excite such lively enthusiasm: —the applause never ceased; encores and recalls succeeded to each other; during the first act only the composer was obliged to present himself on the stage three or four times. It is true that he was not called for during either of the subsequent ones, nor when the curtain fell: and that on the second

performance of 'Fiorina' the theatre was not half full."—From the above we gather that whatever Signor Pedrotti may become, he is hardly yet the new Italian composer for whom the world has been so long waiting.—Madame Alboni has been engaged at the Italian Theatre to fill the place of Madame Borghi-Mano.—'Le Solitaire,' an elderly opera, by Signor Carafa (written in the days when M. le Vicomte d'Arlincourt was thought to be the Victor Hugo of French romance) has just been revived at the *Théâtre Lyrique* of Paris, without success.

The French Quartett party, made up of MM. Maurin, Chevillard, Mas, and Sabatier—whose performance of Beethoven's posthumous Quartets has excited so much attention for a season or two past—has set forth on a tour into Germany; and is said to have been most favourably received at Frankfort, the town selected as starting-point.

The reasons which prevented us from noticing in detail 'Le Demi-Monde' [*ante*, p. 411], in spite of the vast success which that play commanded, and still commands, in Paris—its want of literary merit and its unpleasantness of subject—apply with still greater force to 'La Joconde,'—the drama by MM. Paul Foucher and Regnier, which has just been produced at the *Théâtre Français* with the purpose of providing a new part for Madame Arnould-Plessy. Considering the place of its production, the argument of its story, and the style in which it is written, 'La Joconde' is a still more emphatic illustration of "décadence" than 'Le Demi-Monde.' The later, still more than the earlier, play leaves out of consideration the real gist of the social dilemma argued—one which cannot be stated without an anatomy of female weakness and masculine temptation being offered to the public in a manner which we hold as alien to the purposes of Art, especially of the art dramatic. Neither does the style of 'La Joconde,' which is diffuse and conversational under the idea of representing Nature, satisfy us. It is observable that, in conjunction with this disposition to pull down Comedy and Tragedy to the level of the most painful realities of French life, an attempt at realism in the accessories of stage-presentment is made, which bids fair to convert *spectacle* in Paris into a daguerreotype of "the houses we live in" peopled by persons among whom we should not desire to live.—M. Janin has rarely been happier in invective than while launching his *tirade* against the sumptuous upholsteries with which 'La Joconde' has been put on the stage of the *Théâtre Français*.

Sadler's Wells closed for the season on Saturday with the tragedy of 'Othello,' the *Moor* being acted, not by Mr. Phelps, as usual, but by Mr. Marston; the former gentleman assuming for the nonce the part of *Iago*. Mr. Marston has had few opportunities of proving his talents in the highest *roles*; but has seldom failed to take advantage of the occasion to show the extent of his powers. The third act of 'Othello,' which contains the test-scenes of the character, was very effectively sustained; and Mr. Marston attained the climax of the agony with great success. *Iago* is a part which does not suit Mr. Phelps's idiosyncrasy. He plays it in "the style familiar," which frequently brings out new and accidental points, but the general impression is unsatisfactory.

MISCELLANEA

Newspapers and Book Packets.—The following notice has just been issued from the General Post-Office.—“1. On Monday, the 24th instant, and thenceforward, all newspapers, whether bearing the impressed stamp or postage labels, and book packets, will be allowed to be posted at the General Post-Office, St. Martin’s-le-Grand, from 6 P.M. to 7 P.M., at an extra charge of one farthing each; from 7 till a quarter past 7 at a charge of a halfpenny each; and from a quarter past 7 till half-past 7 at a charge of a penny each; the time for posting without extra charge remaining as at present, viz. 6 o’clock.—2. The time at the branch offices and receiving offices for posting newspapers will remain as heretofore, and will also be applicable to book packets.”

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Date of Policy	18th March, 1845.	24th April, 1845.	7th Nov. 1845.
Aze at Entry	30.	49.	61.
Annual Premium	£25 7 6	£25 16 8	£49 8 4
Sum Assured	£1,000 0 0	£1,000 0 0	£1,000 0 0
Bonus added	£157 10 0	£184 0 0	£211 10 0

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1853.	1854.
£113,619	Premiums received
£6,913	£146,066
£113,619	£146,066
Annuities Immediate and Deferred.	
Bonuses guaranteed when the Policy is issued.	
No. of Policies issued.	
Prospectuses and further information may be obtained at the Offices of the Company, or from any of the agents.	
Persons whose Fire Policies with this Company expire on the 29th inst. are respectively reminded that receipts for the renewal of the same will be found at the Head-quarters, Liverpool, London, and Manchester, and in the hands of the agents.	
SWINTON BOULT, Secretary to the Company.	

December, 1855.

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Instituted 1824.

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F. G. SMITH, Secretary.

27, Cornhill, London, Dec. 1856.

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